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WIPE OUT **COULD AIDS MAKE** ESKIMOS EXTINCT?

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# INI)FP

Saturday 6 June 1998 70p (IR70p)

No 3,630

# Blair faces revolt over student fees

Colin Brown

Chief Political Correspondent

REBEL Labour MPs are being told by government whips to stay in their constituencies next the Government's controversial plans to impose tuition fees and £10,000 in deht.

Some of the 35 Labour MPs tenance grant." who have tabled an amendment to the Teaching and Higher of David Bhunkett's Bill said yes- of the revolt against the lone-

stituency leave" by the whips, but have turned it down.

member of the left-wing Camweek to bead off a revolt over paign Group of Labour MPs, said: "I have written back to the whips saying I have no intention abolish maintenance grants of taking up their offer because which could leave students I intend to vote in favour of retaining the basic student main-

However, another opponent

ment. Gerry Steinherg, the Labour MP for Durbam City, Alan Simpson, a leading said he was opposed to the Bill but would be meeting councillors on Monday to discuss a res-

> than travelling to London. John Cryer, another rebel, said on BBC radio that most of the MPs opposing the Government would be abstaining. The rebellion will not be on the scale

parent benefits, when 47 voted

the first outward sign of growdaim is government by diktat.

The rebels include Dennis Skinner, the veteran left-winger idents' parking scheme, rather who is standing for the elections to the party's ruling national executive (NEC) with the support across the backbench and was of the Deputy Prime Minister, John Prescott, and, ironically, Mr Blunkett, the Secretary of

State for Education. Mr Skinner said: "I had no intention of standing until the

ition fees and ending student stituency leave" and would not against the Government and whips decided to produce their grants have been offered "con- be voting against the Government and about 50 abstained, but it will be Soviet-style official list. I am standing not just against coning unrest at what some MPs formity, but because it is important to say to people that we at hetween 40 and 50 MPs. are still a broad church, we have

a political and industrial wing." However, the rebels yesterday claimed the unrest went not confined to the "usual suspects" on the left wing. It included a number of the new intake, such as Teresa Kingham. MP for Gloucester and a former charity official.

numbers on constituency leave stituencies. But it also helps to a closely guarded secret but one reduce plotting during the dog ministerial aide put the number

Mr Steinberg said: "I am not voting against it ... but I certainly can't support it and I am on a constituency week. I was given it a month ago, and I think it is a coincidence."

Constituency leave is being used by the whips to manage Tony Blair's massive majority in the Commons. It forces MPs to get away from Westminster and

The whips are keeping the keep up their support in condays of the summer, traditionally

a difficult time for governments. The revolt over student fees will coincide with the publication of nominations for the MPs' seats on the NEC. The whips infuriated backbenchers by nominating three MPs, including Clive Soley, chairman of the Parliamentary Labour Party. It is expected they will get massive support, but that was dismissed

as a "conscript army" by one MP.

With tempers rising last week at the regular meeting of the PLP, Mr Prescott intervened to ensure that there would be a secret ballot. That eased fears of retaliation by the whips against those who refuse to toe the leadership line, but there is continuing anger at changes to the selection procedures for MPs, as reported yesterday in The Independent, which left-wingers believe will be used to get rid of them before the next election.

Leading article, page 22

#### **Fayed** insults <sub>e</sub>Diana's mother

in Paris

had refused to talk to "a v

in Paris last August. "People like her are on another planet," Mr Al Fayed said. "She's a snob. It's English snobbery... If she thinks she is a member of the Royal Family and should have nothing to do with ordinary people like me, it's up to her. I'm just a working-

His outburst came during a

Earlier, Mr Al Fayed had room, he would "hang them ail".

Members of Diana's family , French medical authorities said the story was impossible: Diana was unable to speak by the time gagement the following week.

Fayed fury, page 3



Education Bill opposing tu- terday he had been given "con-

By John Lichfield

MOHAMED At Faved insulted the mother of Diana. Princess of Wales, outside a courtroom in Paris yesterday, telling journalists that she was an "English snoh".

The multi-millionaire owner of Harrods said that Frances Shand Kydd, Diana's mother, ing-class guy" like him.

Mr Al Fayed and Mrs Shand Kydd were in Paris as observers at a meeting called by the judge investigating the road accident that killed Diana and her companion, Mr Fayed's son Dodi,

class guy."

break in a "general confrontation" at the Palais de Justice in Paris hetween 10 eyewitnesses to the crash, nine press photographers and one despatch rider arrested at the scene. The 10 face possible charges of manslaughter and callous behaviour.

praised the hearing and the excellent" investigating judge. Herve Stephan. When he emerged during the afternoon. he said the meeting was going nowhere. He said the photographers were "vultures" who were mostly responsible for the crash. If he was not in a court-

have been upset by previous remarks made by Mr Al Fayed. in which he claimed that her dving words were passed to him by a nurse at the Pitié-Salpetrière hospital in Paris. she reached the hospital. Earlier this week, Mr Al Faved told an ITV documentary that he had spoken to Diana by telephone on the night of her death: he said that Diana bad told him that she and Dodi planned to announce their en-

Leading article, page 22



# Era ends as Dounreay closes

By Charles Arthur and Colin Brown

to an end yesterday. The Govcrament announced that Downreay, the first station to generate electricity from nuclear power, will carry out no more active work and will be decommissioned.

The announcement sparked intense political infighting both between and within the parties, with Labour MPs from coalfield constituencies planning to argue for more pits to be reviewed as an alternative energy source.

But for the 1,400 workers at the plant, and the people in nearby Thurso who depend on it, the impact is minimal. It will take until 2095 to dismantle the plant safety, and doing that hundreds of people for decades, sure earlier this week that up to

Yesterday's announcement by Donald Dewar, Secretary of State for Scotland, was hailed as A NUCLEAR era finally came a victory by anti-nuclear groups and seen by Labour MPs as a desperate attempt to staunch the haemorrhage of support to the Scottish National Party, which has led a vocal campaign for

Dounreav's closure. Alex Salmond, leader of the SNP which is threatening to overtake Labour in the elections for the Scottish Parliament, poured scorn on the Government's U-turns over the site, which the ministers recently described as being one of the safest in the world. John Redwood, Tory spokesman on trade and industry, criticised the Gov-

crnment's stand as a "shambles". Ministers denied the timing will provide employment for was connected with the disclo-



The dream lives on, page 12

170kg of weapons-grade uranium -enough to make 12 atomfrom the 1960s, Instead John Mckeown, director of the UK Atomic Energy Authority, in-

sisted that he had recommended the closure in March.

rise of the SNP. "People are saying it's the only way to stop us sinking further against the SNP," said one Labour MP.

Anti-nuclear campaigners said the decision vindicated their years of campaigning against the safety of the plant, located on the far north coast of Scotland. But Downing Street said the decision was

based on economic grounds. Mr Dewar emphasised that the announcement will not affect jobs in the area for at least a generation. Even after the reprocessing of fuel is complete, ic bombs - was unaccounted for in the next few years, the decommissioning of all the buildings on site - some of which are highly radioactive internally will take another 100 years.

The Dounreay project was But Labour backbenchers started in 1953, aiming to de-

saw it as an attempt to halt the velop British expertise making commercial nuclear reactors. It relied on a technology call the "fast-breeder reactor", which generated its own fuel. But problems were found with the cooling system, which relied on liquid sodium metal, and the expense meant the fast-breeder re-

actor was never economic. The Tory government announced the end of the fast reactor programme in 1988. The reactor was shutdown in 1993. Reprocessing carried on until 1996 when the last commercial shipment arrived from Australia. That reprocessing will be completed in 2006.

Lorraine Mann, of the pressure group Scotland Against Nuctear Dumping, said: "The truth about what was done there must come out."

Experiment ends, page 12

# Couple kidnapped own daughter

By Glenda Cooper

AN ASIAN couple who tried to kidnap their daughter so she could be forced into an arranged marriage were yesterday jailed for drugging her and trying to fly her out of the country.

Mohammed Bashir and his wife, Sekira Khan, gave their functal and drove her to Man-

claiming they were acting out of love for their daughter who they helieved was in a relationship with a jailed drug dealer.

But Judge Anthony Ensor to kidnap somebody and take laced with the "date rape" drug attempted is contrary to the law Rohypnol at her grandfather's of this land ... people like your daughter must be protected."

The couple wept in the dock napping and administering a of Manchester Crown Court, noxious substance to Rehana, a drugged drink she was driven 50 student at Luton University. miles to Manchester Airport. Bashir was jailed for two years and his wife for six months.

Leslie Hull, for the prosecution, told the court that told the couple, from Bradford, British-born Rebana had left West Yorksbire: To endeavour home for university partly because she had been under presdaughter Rehana. 20. a drink them away in the manner you sure to go to Pakistan and get married. While her parents retained their traditional culture she had been keen to pursue a The couple admitted kid- more independent life.

After being given the

She regained consciousness

there, and despite being told by

her parents that she was in bos-

pital, became angry and alertcd airport staff. Her parents pleaded guilty to the offences. "They were adamant they hadn't intended to harm their daughter and had done what they had done in what they regarded as her best long-

term interests," said Mr Hull.

#### In brief

New places for medical schools

MINISTERS are poised to agree funding for an extra thousand medical school places in response to growing demand for healthcare.

Aid for poor pupils Manchester Grammar School will offer free or subsidised places to all poor pupils who qualify for catry - but only after checking their parents'



INSIDE GUIDE: WEATHER, P2 CROSSWORDS, TIME OFF P12 & P28 TODAY'S TELEVISION, THE EYE FULL CONTENTS, P2

#### Out of the wreckage

his first column

tomorrow

Manchester, two years after the IRA bomb

**■** Gotcha! The secret life of the new editor of The Sun



#### IN MONDAY'S INDEPENDENT

**■ Deborah Ross** interviews lames Brown, the laddish editor of Loaded magazine who took over at the helm of GQ.

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Recycled paper made up 11.4% of the raw material for UK newspapers in the first half of 1997.

# Pro-car lobbyist advised Prescott on roads policy

Political Correspondent

JOHN Prescott is being advised by a former lobbyist for a firm representing road and rail companies on his new transport

Mike Craven, who worked for Mr Prescott in the 1980s, has spent the past 10 years working for the public affairs firm Market Access. Among the firm's clients last year were the RAC, Rover Group, Toyota and Vauxhall. It also acted for a number of public transport firms.

Mr Prescott's paper will include radical proposals to curb car use in towns and cines. Local councils will be given powers to levy congestion charges on motorists who bring their cars into city centres at peak times, and new charges will be imposed on car parking for supermarkets, offices and factories. There will also be higher taxes on the private use of company cars.

Since leaving his job as managing director of Market Access in March, Mr Craven has been on "gardening leave" because of a clause in his contract banning him from working for rivals, according to former col-

In a parliamentary answer this week, the Deputy Prime Minister confirmed that Mr

for publication next month.

helped with the document, he said. These included government officials, environment and . transport user groups, academics and public consultants.

"Mr Craven is one such source of advice. The White Paper is being drafted in the normal way by my department," he said in reply to a question from Jonathan Sayeed, Conservative MP for Bedfordshire Mid. A list of Market Access's

clients between May and November 1997 includes a number of transport companies. As well as car manufacturers and the RAC, the firm worked for London Transport, the Confederation of Passenger Transport and GEC Alsthom Holdings, which bid in February to replace train signalling between London and Glasgow. It also represented Wisconsin Central Transport, which bought British Rail's former freight business.

A senior source in the lobbying industry said there was nothing untoward in Mr Craven acting as an adviser. "It was always assumed he would go off and work for John Prescott at some stage. This is informal; he isn't a Whitehall adviser. I get

his transport White Paper, due that ministers need expert advice, so they are bound to turn A number of advisers had to people with industry links.

However, Mr Craven was not heavily involved in the transport side of Market Access's business. The source said: If you appoint people who have no knowledge of the area, they are going to be useless."

the first Labour officials to make the move into lobbying. When he left Mr Prescott's office in 1988 he was one of only a handful to have done so. Now almost every major lobbying firm employs at least one former Labour staffer.

Among the most senior lobbyists who used to work for Labour are Colin Byrne, Peter Mandelson's former deputy in the party's information department, now at Shandwick: and Mike Lee, a former adviser to David Blunkett, who is now a director of Westminster Strategy.

Mr Craven said last year that he was more interested in hiring experts from husiness or the Civil Service than party backs. "It's not who you know, it's what you know," he said.

Mr Prescott has been battling with the Downing Street policy unit over his plans to curb car use. Last month he said in the impression that if he was an interview that he would not helping out it would be as a per- be thwarted by advisers who he sonal favour," he said, adding described as "teenyboppers".

# Ministers relent over 1.000 extra doctors

MINISTERS are poised to agree a large expansion in the number of medical students by 1,000 a year to head off a projected short-age of doctors early in the new

The increase of a fifth on the 4,970 medical students planned a major impact on the NHS budget. Doctors control most of the NHS resources so a rise in their numbers would mean a sharp leap in health-service costs.

Alan Milburn, the health minister, said yesterday that the Government was "actively considering" funding the ex-

pansion but the final decision sion. He said that while much of of the Government's comprehensive spending review, expected in the summer.

His remarks, in a speech to the British Medical Association's annual conference of junior doctors yesterday, were notably upbeat compared with his cautious response last Nofor 2000, would require the vember, when the Medical tending the conference in Lonbuilding of one or more new Workforce Advisory Committee don. The loudest applause came the increase of 1,000 places.

That report provided official confirmation of the intense pressure expected on the NHS over the next two decades as the demand for healthcare rises. Mr Milburn signalled the Government's anxiety by questioning the committee's main conclu- sultants in the NHS.

would depend on the outcome the report chimed with the Government's own thinking, "the recommendation on increased medical school intake has very significant implications, and will need careful examination".

> -The change of tone in yesterday's speech drew a standing ovation from representatives of the 30,000 junior doctors atment for NHS staff. "The interests of staff and the interests of patients are inextricably linked. Treat staff well and they will treat patients better," he said

The BMA's Junior Doctors Committee is also calling for an increase in the number of con-



Cast members rehearsing for the world première of Gavin Bryar's new opera Doctor Ox's Experiment, which opens at the London Coliseum on 15 June Photograph: John Voos

#### UK may . block EU direct tax plans

GORDON BROWN, the Chancellor, last night threatened to veto the first move by Brussels to legislate on direct tax - the most potent symbol of national sovereignty.

He said he was not prepared to see the City of London - and Britain's economy - suffer losses from attempts by the EU Commission to tighten tax rules on savings.
The Chancellor was chairing

talks in Luxembourg on proposals designed to ensure that tax is paid on all income from bank accounts and securities held by EU residents.

The Government has welcomed moves to combat tax eyasion, but fears EU legislation setting a fixed rate of tax on mterest from savings would merely drive investors out of the EU and particularly out of the City of London:

The Chancellor told a news conference that the plan was unacceptable: "We are going to stand up for the national interest in this matter."

The proposal aims to set an EU-wide minimum tax rate on interest paid to EU savers who invest in an EU member state other than their own. Financial institutions would either withhold 20 per cent from the interest due, or ensure that details of a customer's interest payments were passed back to the home tax authority.

UK investment bankers have been lobbying the Treasury hard to fight the plan, fearing it could seriously damage European capital markets and particularly the Eurobond market. The City of London is by far the largest centre for Eurobond trading.

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Rival camps

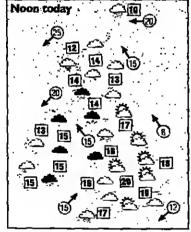
drama on t

Mr Brown signailed backing for the idea of exchanging information between tax authorities to crack down oo tax evasion on savings. But his strident tone dismayed EU taxation Commissioner Mario Monti, the plan's author. He sat stoneyfaced alongside Mr Brown, and then insisted that Brussels had already considered the impact of the measure on EU financial institutions.

He pointed out that his plan only applied to EU individuals investing in other EU countries. not to third-country nationals investing in London or elsewhere in the EU. Furthermore, he said, the tax would only apply to in-terest on savings, not income from shares or capital gains.

"It is a form of tax co-operation. It is not to be regarded as a new tax but a way of getting European governments to co-operate on cutting crossborder tax evasion."

#### WEATHER



**British Isles weather** C.cloudy, Cl.clear, F.lair, Fg.log, Hz.haze, M.mict: R.ram

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Scotland will have outbreaks of pain. Some of them will be heavy in the west but the east will have brighter spells. Northern Ireland will also have some heavy rain this morning That should clear this afternoon but it will stay mostly cloudy with scattered showers. Western parts of England and Wates will have rain later this moming. spreading eastwards this afternoon. South-east England vill have showers early and late but there will be some

It will be cooler again tomorphy and most parts will have a lot cloud. Scotland will be cloudiest of all with spells of rain and strong winds. The heaviest of the rain will be in the north and west with southern areas having some brighter spells. The rest of the country will be breezy with sweep in from the west on Monday. Tuesday and esday will be drier and warmer but breezy.

Outlook for the next few days

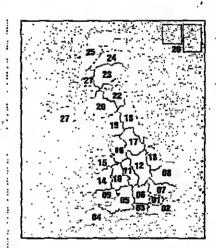
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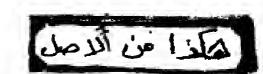
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Diana inquiry: Key players called together for 'confrontation' as wild claims continue to cloud investigation

# Fayed fumes at 'snobs, vultures and bastards'

IT WAS a day of absurd contradictions. A day of long periods of calm. And one extraordinary outburst by Mohamed Al Fayed, in which he accused Frances Shand Kydd, the mother of Diana. Princess of Wales, of being an English snob", who refused to talk to a working class guy" like him.

It is now nine months since -Diana died in the underpass beneath the Place de L'Alma in Paris. Yesterday's gathering at the Palais de Justice in Paris -· a "general confrontation" of witnesses, participants and interested parties - was the oearest the world has yet come to a formal attempt to make sense the events of the night of 30-31 August 1997. The 10 most ootorious pa-

- parazzi in the world - but who can remember their names? entered the Palais de Justice by a side door to avoid the waiting cameras. Mr Fayed, who has rubbished the official investigation from the heginning. spoke at first of a "very good hearing", chaired by a "fantas-·tic" judge.

No side doors for him. He · arrived in a cavalcade of four · limousines with an entourage of 13 people, including his own photographer.

He re-emerged during the afternoon to lash out on all sides. The hearing had gone nowhere, he said. Mrs Shand Kydd, also present, was "a snob", "an English snob", who thought she was part of the Royal Family, and didn't "want to talk to people like me". The paparazzi were "vultures", who were mostly responsible for the crash; if it hadn't been a court room, he would have "hung them all". Only God could really say what happened; one day he would "open the box" and expose all "the bastards" who were responsible for his son's death.

The gathering - not a trial hut part of the investigation took place behind the closed doors of the Chambre des Criées, an ornate room on the Diana inquiry.



Mohamed Al Fayed (centre) leaving the Palais de Justice in Paris after yesterday's 'confrontation' of witnesses and other key individuals

first floor of the Palais de Justice, a room generally used to auction property seized by the French state. The master of ceremonies, in black gown and white forked collar, was Juge Hervé Stéphan, the investigating magistrate in charge of the

The idea was to hear the testimony of the nine press matched, face-to-face, with the photographers, and one disrecollections of eye-witnesses, patch rider, formally suspected policemen and ambulancemen. And also against the testimony of being partly and indirectly responsible for the crash; and of 200 pictures taken by the phoalso suspected of behaving caltographers themselves, hefore lously by taking close-up picand after the crash.

Which pieces of evidence fit-

lenge then drove off at speed.

He also claimed that Dodi

is lying; or exaggerating? Or just Outside, the odd witness or

the occasional defence lawyer would feed scraps of information to the waiting press. Then the press would feed the scraps Kydd was there; so was Mr large quantities of alcohol

Their accounts were being ted together? Which accounts to one another. It is to be Fayed, father of Diana's comadded up; which did oot? Who hoped that the hearing made panioo, Dodi; so were the more sense than the scraps.

Apart from the witnesses, the paparazzi and a score of lawyers, only one other category of person was allowed into the a high-powered Mercedes room: the bereaved. Mrs Shand while under the influence of

that the "general confrontation" - a frequent device in complicated judicial investigations in France - would signal the beginning of the end of the inquiry. Judge Stéphan has always said that he would like to be finished in June. However, one of the defence lawyers present, Maître

and anti-depressant drugs. It had originally seemed

Jean-Marc Coblence, confirmed earlier reports that this would oot now be possible. Delays in the minute, technical examination of the wreckage of the crashed Mercedes would prevent Judge Stéphan from making a final report for "several months", probably until October, he said.

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Was the hearing proving useful? Had anything new emerged? Maître Cohlence, speaking half way through the day, shook his head.

There were eight witnesses present, six men and two women. The only one who made himself readily available to the press - perhaps too readily - had a strange tale to tell: not one which fitted easily with any of the established, or halfestablished facts.

Jacques Morel, a 50-year-old retired sound engineer, said he had been driving through the tunnel in the opposite direction: there were photographers waiting by the tunnel entraoce for the Mercedes to arrive, he asserted. Afterwards, he said. there were many more photographers - at least 20 - at the scene than the 10 present in the Palais de Justice.

Told of his comments, a defence lawyer waved his arms in exasperatioo, "Yes," he said, "There were special huses bringing photographers from the Ritz to the Place de L'Alma; at least two huses,"

The French newspaper Le Parisien reported that Juge Stéphan was more determined than ever to produce a comprehensive report which would oail every rumour and throw back into the sea every red herring raised by the world's media (and Mr Fayed).

The investigation continues.

# Rival camps play out the drama on the small screen

By Kim Sengupta and Sally Woodford

YESTERDAY's meeting of the main, surviving, players in the drama surrounding the death of Diana, Princess of Wales was the culmination of a week of claim, counterclaim and recrimina-

Mohamad Al Fayed's claims that the princess was the victim of a conspiracy and murder have come under attack in a Channel 4 television documentary.

According to the Dispatches programme Mr Payed set out to snare the princess into his family through his soo Dodi, and her death was caused, as originally thought, by drunkeo fast and reckless driving by the Paris Ritz driver Henri Paul, and a breakdown in security. However, since her death the Fayed camp had created a smokescreen of conspiracy theories.

The Dispatches documeotary comes in a week of fevered claims and counterclaims over the princess's death. An ITV documentary, The Secrets of the Crash, made with the cooperation of the Fayed camp offered a conspiracy scenario. The programme's 12 million viewers were told that Mr Paul may have been "poisoned" by high levels of carbon dioxide in his blood, and he had links with



The wreckage of the Mercedes car in which Diana, Princess Photograph: Big Pictures of Wales, and Dodi Fayed died

the French secret service. Most by Mr Fayed's representatives royal experts described these al- to support their version of legations as rubbish. Officials at the Paris Ritz al Family"

and the bodyguard, Trevor Rees-Jones, had said Mr Paul did not appear to be drunk, and had been drinking pineapple juice mixed with water. Mr Fayed's camp had issued video footage which purported to show him walking and behaving in a manner which did not suggest he was drunk.

But in the Channel 4 show, Alain Villaunez, a barman at the Bar Vendome, said he saw Mr Paul drinking Pastis, and afterwards "he staggered to the exit", bumping into another barman on the way. Mr Villaunez also claims he was asked Fayed told him that his father had persocally instructed that Mr Paul did the driving that night. Roland Biribin, of the French limousine drivers' association, said that Mr Paul was oot a member and did not have the occessary qualification to drive the Mercedes.

In its pursuit of a conspiracy theory the Fayed camp had made much of a Fiat Uno which is supposed to have clipped the Mercedes before the crash. Mr Fayed's people are said to have tracked down the car. But Dispatches revealed French investigators have already tracked down and eliminated the car from their inquiries.

Mr Fayed had repeatedly claimed that he had been told about the last words spoken by the princess before her death. He had also said that he saw her body. But Sami Nair, an adviser to the Minister of the Interior, said that he arrived at the hospital before the princess

was takeo there. He said: "I can confirm in definite terms that she did not utter a single word." He added the room where she was taken was However, a driver called closely guarded and the Harrods Ritz until last month, said in the owner's claims to have seen her programme that he was present was " almost impossible ... and when Mr Paul made the chal-extremely questionable."

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parents of Henri Paul, the

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# Who conspired with whom?

By Kim Sengupta

DIANA, Princess of Wales. was murdered by MI6 at the behest of the Duke of Edinburgh. Who says so? Hundreds of people around the world who are convinced that

her death was no accident. Prince Philip was apparently deeply disturbed by her relationship with Dodi Fayed. and felt that she was destabilising the Royal Family. An

head of MI6 and Prince Philip

Others, of course, know this is nonsense. The real killers, claimed Mr Paul had links with they will say, were Israeli agents French intelligence. who were determined to pre-Family marrying an Arab who would become the stepfather of the future British king. They engineered the crash by "fixing" the brakes of the Mercedes. acoverup Four of the paparazzi believe it was an accident."

preparing a case to bring the French secret service, who had driver Henri Paul on their payto trial on the charges in Cairo. roll. Indeed, an ITV documentary earlier this week months after the crash in Paris,

events "for the good of the Roy-

recently Mr Fayed's spokesman,

had dismissed claims that Mr

Paul had taunted and challenged

waiting paparazzi as he drove off

saying they would never be able

to catch him. The Fayed camp

had also claimed that Mr Paul

was fully qualified to drive the

Mercedes limousine which was

owned by a hire company called

Frederick who worked at the

Michael Cole, who was until

If Mossad did assassinate vent a member of the Royal the princess, the agents got there before the Freemasons. As everyone knows, they have the together. In Libya, a conspirainfluence and the means to or- cy is official. Jana, the state news ganise murder and then carry out agency, stated: "Only children

Egyptian lawyer is at present They were helped by the chasing the car were, according to this theory, freemasons.

There are many more such conspiracy theories. Nine fevered new explanations appear about what really happened. There is now an Internet website on the conspiracies where those with access can fantasise

# Top school in £10m bid to provide free access

Education Editor

ONE OF Britain's most famous independent schools is to offer free or subsidised places to all poor pupils who qualify for entry but only after it has checked the size of their parents' houses and incomes.

Dr Martin Stephen, head of Manchesier Grammar School. said that a £10m appeal launched today would create a new type of "free access" independent school and enable it to offer the same number of assisted places as the government scheme abolished last year.

But he promised that the means test for his school's scheme would be strict to avoid the "misuse" of funds which had occurred under the government scheme which paid out a for the 210 boys who enter the total of £140m to around 10,000 pupils each year.

the old scheme had two weak- fees support. nesses. It didn't measure the capital value of claimants' housvery low income. And in the free education for local people." case of single or divorced people it didn't allow for the exis-

number of people had misused assisted places, mainly in London and the South-east. Rules for the old scheme were laid down by the Government but

agreed to act as patron for the appeal for the school (fees, £4,500 a year) whose old boys include cricketer Mike Atherton, writer Alan Garner, actor Robert Powell and financier Howard Davies. A total of £3m has already been raised to ensure that the 40 free or subsidised places will be available school this September. At present. 400 boys throughout the He said: "The means test for school receive full or near full-

Dr Stephen said: "This is an unashamed attempt to refound es so that technically you could one of our oldest schools which be living in a £1m house on a was founded in 1515 to provide

His school which caters for 1,400 boys who must pass an entrance test was top in last year's

going to check people's council tax hand and the income of the household. We don't think old Mancunians are going to give money if they think it will

He believed only a small policed by schools. The Prince of Wales has

Choirboys at Manchester Grammar School where traditional values are held dear and levels of academic achievement are unsurpassed Photograph: Brian Duff

GCSE league tables and 58 of on a more modest scale. The hridge this year.

schools with assisted places are fund-raising to replace them, hut most are expected to do so

its sixth-formers have been of- Girls' Public Day School Trust fered places at Oxford or Cam- is trying to raise £70m for its 25 schools. Each school will decide Almost all independent how to administer funds and how checks should be made oo

pendent Schools Information drove up to the school in new Service said that it had been very Range Rovers. difficult to abuse the assisted

places scheme because schools

became very skilled at policing

it. Bursars, forinstance, de-

scribe how they turned down

Under another scheme, funded by husinessman Peter Lampl, Manchester Grammar will help sixth-formers from poor backgrounds to prepare for Oxbridge entrance, Extra classes will be offered for them during the school day, at weekends and during the holidays.

Dr Stephen said they would want to be certain that any pupil who benefited from the initiative was unable to afford the

**OLD BOYS** MADE GOOD



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Ben Kingsley Oscar-winning actor whose stage career began as member of school dramatic society



Martin Sixsmith Former BBC Moscow correspondent - took Russian O and A-level



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YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MOKIGAGE OK OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT Chehenham & Gloucester plc Barnett Way Gloucester GL4 3RL. Early Redemption Charges if you repay the loan in full or in part, or ask to switch to another C&C mortgage within the first six years, you will have to pay an early redemption charge. The charge will be a percentage of the original loan amount as follows: Year 1=5%; Year 3=5%; Year 3=5%; Year 5=5%; Year 5

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Mother fights axing of assisted school place

THE HOPES of an 11-year-old the Secretary of State for Eduboy being allowed to continue his education at a private boarding school under the assisted places scheme hung in the bal school throughout his secondary

A High Court judge heard that the Department for Edu- to apply for judicial review was cation and Employment is now considering "fresh material" Sanderson, who is in danger of was "redeterminiog" the case. abolished the scheme for secosing his place at the King's School in Ely, Cambridgeshire, following the rundown of the scheme. The parents of many pupils in a similar dilemma are

closely watching the case. Alastair's mother, Yvonne Sanderson, 39, of Kidlington, Oxfordshire, yesterday came to court to launch a test-case challenge against the decision last

cation, not to exercise his discretion to permit her son to keep Mr Blunkett's final decision. his assisted place at the 800-pupit educatioo until the age of 18.

But her application for leave

Pushpinder Saini, for the Secretary of State, said it was not accepted that the minister "has done anything wrong",

hut a redetermination was necessary because the family solicitors had submitted further material and a decision would be made by 26 June.

Mr Justice Hidden said he would adjourn the case and or-February of David Blunkett, der that it should come for an

expedited hearing in July if Mrs Sanderson wished to challenge

Mrs Sanderson said outside court that Alastair, who had learning difficulties, started at King's School last September after being offered his place in adjourned after Philip Engel- February 1997. The 1997 Eduman, appearing for the family, cation (Schools) Act, which supporting the case of Alastair announced that Mr Blunkett came into force on 1 September, ondary education. But the Secretary of State had discretion to

> main issue is that a promise given by the Government, that children offered assisted places will continue their education. should not be broken.

"We have had a letter from Mr Blunkett saying that he will honour this promise."

IN BRIEF

BBC calls for release of staff

The BBC yesterday urged the Yemeni Government to allow the three journalists still held in the Yemen to return to the UK immediately. The three men face their twelfth day of detention today after allegedly filming without permission in a restricted area of the Yemen for a BBC2 Correspondent documentary about kidnappings. They were arrested on 26 May and held without charge until Thursday.

EU to discuss ban on driftnets

ANIMAL welfare campaigners today urged the EU to back a UK call for a ban on "walls of death" driftnets. EU fisheries ministers meet on Monday to discuss the proposal to outlaw the nets, which catch dolphins, whales, sharks, turtles and diving hirds as they float from weights for miles across the seas. The UK is calling for a ban as part of its presidency, in a bid to halt the slaughter of marine life.

Firefighters' strike feared

FRESH strikes were called yesterday in a row over firefighters' jobs, amid signs that the dispute could escalate across the country. The Fire Brigades Union announced that its members in Essex will walk out on June 12 and 15.

The dispute worsened when the authority warned firefighters they could be dismissed for joining the strike.

Thieves 'preyed' on mourners

A PAIR of pickpockets who spent days "preying" on the crowds that gathered outside Kensington Palace after the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, were jailed for three years today at Knightsbridge Crown Court. Anthony Powell, 32, and Marva Williams, 42, were branded "totally unscrupulous parasites".

Pilot killed in plane crash

A PILOT was killed yesterday when his vintage Hawker Hunter jet aircraft crashed at Dunsfold Aerodrome, near Godalm ing in Surrey while returning from a practice flight.

Boy, 17 stabbed at school

A 17-YEAR-OLD boy was heing treated in hospital last night after being stahbed at school, police said.

The boy was said to be in a comfortable condition at the Royal Halifax Infirmary after the incident at Holy Trinity Senior School in the Holmfield area of the town.

A West Yorkshire police spokesman said another 17year-old had been arrested and was being questioned in connection with the incident. Terry Cobb, a senior teacher

at Holy Trinity, said: "The head and the chair of governors are investigating the incident and at this point there is no further comment."

Head teacher Philip Williamson confirmed that the incident was being investigated and said the injured boy's parents had been informed.

He said the wound was superficial and the boy was in no



continue to fund existing pupils. Mrs Sanderson said: "The

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By Kate Watson-Smyth

ADNAN Khashoggi is addicted to gambling and it will ruin him financially, his first wife Soraya said yesterday.

international arms dealer settled his case against the Ritz Casino, which sued him for £3.2m-worth of cheques which bounced, Mrs Khashoggi said her ex-hushand was still a

"He is addicted to gamhling and he can't stop going to casinos. He is in denial but he needs help. I don't think he realises he is an addict," she

AK, as he likes to be known, was once reputed to be the richest man in the world with a fortune worth £2.4bn. An international Mr Fixit with lucrative connections, most of his money was made from commissions paid on sales of aircraft and arms to the Middle East. especially Saudi Arahia, by

Western companies. With wealth came all the trapping of success - homes in Europe, the Middle East, the United States and East Africa; a private DC9 jet and a yacht

named after his daughter one has hrought him to court

In 1961 he married Soraya, who said yesterday that he loved to gamble even then.

"He called me his lucky Speaking after the former rabbit and liked me to go with him," she said. "If we were getting ready to

go out for the evening and he said 'hring a big handbag', as opposed to a small evening one. I knew we were going gambling." Mrs Khashoggi said she nev-

er gamhled but she made a deal with her husband, the uncle of the late Dodi Fayed, that he would always give part of his vinnings to charity. "If he won he would push

those chips over to me to go to a Lebanese orphanage and I would cash them so he couldn't have them hack, "We made that deal to keep

me quiet because I hate gam-Mrs Khashoggi, who divorced in 1974 and sued her husband for half his fortune, said: "He gamhles wherever he

is and even if I buy a lottery tick-

et and ring him up he will tell me his numbers. "I am really glad that some-

and that he cannot blame it on a husiness deal," she said.

Mr Khashoggi was being sued for the money - plus interest thought to be around £5m - hut on the fourth day of the hearing, Mr Justice Rougier heard that the parties had agreed a settlement. The details were not disclosed but costs of the case are thought to be up to £1m. Neither side would make any comment.

The court heard that Mr Khashoggi visited the Ritz Casino on 13 occasions between the end of the January and the heginning of April 1986. But 16 of his cheques were refused on presentation because of "insufficient funds".

His favoured game was roulette and he would cash cheques for £200,000 a time, although Mrs Khashoggi said sbe had seen him cash far larg-

But, Mr Khashoggi elaimed the deht was legally unenforceable because he had an arrangement with the casino's management which allowed him to continue gambling on credit, contrary to a section of the 1968 Gaming Act.

Soraya Khashoggi: 'He called me his lucky rabbit and liked me to go out gambling with him'

Rohert Englehart, QC, vention of the Gaming Act." for Mr Khashoggi, stated yesterday: "Mr Khashoggi is happy to make it elear that he withdraws any suggestion that the Ritz But Mrs Khashoggi, who Even if he is in the middle sponsibilities to his family, his somebody has got to say it. He

Saudi king Abdul-Aziz, has always attracted controversy. is so generous and humble. acted improperly or in contra- is still very close to her ex- of a hig business meeting children and grandchildren needs a wake up call."

husband, said he would and a maid comes into first. We want him to live a long Mr Khashoggi, the son of a probably laugh off this latest the room with a tray he will personal physician to the scandal. "He would give away stand up and open the door for heart attack over some lawyer's the last penny in his pocket, he ber.

المكذا من الاصل

time and not drop dead with a "But he has got to put his re- speak to me again after this hut



Billie Jo Jenkins: Part of a bin liner was pushed up her nose

hoo

THE SKULL of the teenager Billie-Jo Jenkins was so badly smashed that it was clear she could no longer be alive, a court heard yesterday.

Denise Franklin, a neighbour called to the scene by the girl's foster father Sion, broke down in tears yesterday as she studied photographs of the scene she found in the family's garden.

Mrs Franklin told the jury at Lewes Crown Court in East Sus-

look at the dead girl because she wasn't at all dishevelled", on the was aware of huge amounts of blood around her head.

It was when she went to put the 13-year-old into the recovery position for injured people that she realised there was no point because her head was so badly damaged, "It was obvious that she couldn't be alive," Mrs Franklin said.

She told how when she arrived at the Jenkins' family home in Hastings, East Sussex, Billie-Jo was lying "remarksex that her instinct was not to ably flat, in the sense that she

garden patio where she had been painting the doors.

The girl had been fostered by Sion Jenkins and his wife, Lois, for five years alongside their four natural daughters. She was lying in a pool of blood and part of a black plastie bin liner was pushed up her nose when she was found fatally injured in February last year.

Mrs Franklin said that as she attempted to tend to Billie-Jo. Mr Jenkins was comforting two of his children, Annie, then 12.

and Lottie, 10, Although she feared Billie-Jo was dead Mrs Franklin still insisted that the ambulance should come in case she was wrong.

Teenager's skull was badly smashed, court told

Mr Jenkins, 40, a deputy headmaster, denies murdering Billie-Jo. But the prosecution claims that nearly 150 microscopic specks of blood on his blue sleeve jacket and trousers prove he was the murderer.

Mrs Franklin told yesterday how later in the evening of Billie-Jo's death, the Jenkins family were at her home. Mr

Jenkins refused to put on his jacket when his wife handed it to him as they left, even though the temperature had dropped to nearly freezing.

The court heard that Mr Jenkins had not checked to see whether Billie-Jo was breathing hefore he dialled for an ambulance. In a transcript of two telephone calls to the emergency services read to the jury yesterday, Mr Jenkins was heard to say "Amhulance please ... it's an

The operator asked if she was breathing all right, "I don't

know, I haven't looked," he said. Mr Jenkins was given instructions on putting Billie-Jo in the recovery position and checked for a pulse and was told to call again if she was not breathing. The court heard that after Mrs Franklin arrived Mr Jenkins dialled 999 again, eight

minutes after his first call. The court also heard from Robert Megit, an administration emergency ... my daughter's

in Hastings where Mr Jenkins was deputy head teacher. He delivered some papers to the Jenkins' home shortly after the discovery of Billie-Jo's body, but has told nothing of the drama

Dr Megit said: "He wasn't the Sion I know. There was no greeting I would normally expect." He handed over the envelope of papers and Mr Jenkins closed the door without saying anything.

The case continues on Monfallen, or she's got head injuries. officer at William Parker School

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# Parents kidnapped daughter to 'protect' her

THERE CAN be few cases, if A COUDIE'S attempt any, where parents come before a court because they love their children too much," said defence counsel for Sekina Khan and Mohammed Bashir yesterday.

Few would be likely to agree that drugging one's daughter and smuggling her out of the country was a sign of love, but for the couple who clung to traditional ways and watched with horror as their daughter inlifestyle, love meant that they felt they had to "protect" Rehana.

Her determination to live her life independently led to events last December when the telephoning them. The parents gained some of her senses and couple drugged their daughter and took ber to Manchester Airport, hoping to get her to Pakistan where they felt she would "settle down".

Mohammed Bashir and Sekina Khan worked long hours in the corner shop they owned in Bradford to raise and educate Rehana and her two younger brothers. But Rehana had felt under pressure at home to agree what was regarded as the error daughter's best interests." to an arranged marriage and, when she turned 20, she left home to study at Luton University. "From the beginning. there were the seeds of deteri- education. "These parents of your cultural and religious oration between the daughter have adopted the English tra- traditions, particularly with reand her parents," said Leslie dition much more than many Hull, prosecuting counsel.

For while Rehana was at university, it seemed her parents' worst fears were being confirmed. She started living with a tually jailed for drug dealing.

to smuggle their rebellious child to Pakistan ends in jail. By Glenda Cooper

"Word got back to the parents and this increased the tenmade that known to her. She re- drove to the airport." sponded by not visiting home or made several visits to Luton to persuade her to come home to speak to them in January 1997. But there were arguments and it culminated in Rehana storming away in the family car."

There was talk within the family that if she could be vironment and "hopefully see of her ways". Defence counsel
Stuart Neal told the court that both Bashir and Khan yesterday the couple's concern was for for two years and six months retheir daughter's safety and her immigrant families do," said

But Rehana flatly refused to go to Pakistan and the couple decided where persuasion had young Asian man who was even- failed "more extreme measures" would succeed, In De-

cember 1997, they bought a ticket to Pakistan in Rehana's name and told their 17-year-old son they would be going away and

he was to look after the shop. Their opportunity came at Rehana's grandfather's funeral.

During the funeral, Rehana was handed a soft drink. Unbeknown to her, it had been spiked. The prosecution told the court: "She drank the drink, she began to feel dizzy then went to creasingly embraced a Western sion and distance between them sleep. She was put in the famand their daughter," said Mr ily car and the parents, along Hull. They disapproved and with their 14-year-old son, At the airport, Rehana re-

> was told she was at the hospital. But she noticed an airline sign and realised she was not. "Once she realised she became distressed and angry and complained to airport staff. She collapsed and was taken to Wythenshawe Hospital," said persuaded to go to Pakistan she Mr Hull. "In a police interview, would be in a more stable en- both parents were adamant their actions were in their

The judge disagreed. Jailing spectively, he said: "I am aware gard to arranged marriages. But clearly your daughter is a British citizen and is entitled to the protection of the law in this

The couple's actions have led to complete estrangement of daughter and parents.



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#### Cervical screening scandal women launch group action

By Jeremy Laurance lealth Editor

A DOZEN women yesterday launched a group action for compensation from the hospital involved in Britain's biggest

cervical screening scandal. The women say that Kent and Canterbury Hospitals NHS Trust has been obstructive and defensive in dealing with claims over the screening disaster which claimed the lives of eight women in whom early signs of cervical cancer were missed.

After exhausting attempts at out-of-court negotiations, the women launched the group action aimed at forcing the Trust to accept its "moral and legal

Canterbury County Court yes- looked in 1990 and 1995. When terday, they argued for interim abnormalities were finally spotpayments and higher awards ted in 1996, investigation was

who is co-ordinating the but by then her cancer was adwomen's hid, said: "We had hoped that the claims for com- therapy and a hysterectomy. pensation would be made outside the courts. But the hospital hility, saying that the changes is being difficult, particularly were so mild that the average over interim payments."

Of 75 cases that Ms Harman is dealing with, 15 have so far beeo settled. Two womeo have issued proceedings against the launch of the first group case.

Ms Harman cited the example of Pat Dunster, 56, who

obligations". Appearing before had pre-cancerous cells overthan have already been offered. delayed for four mooths. Can-Solicitor Sarah Harman, cerwas finally diagnosed in 1997 vanced and required radio-

> The Trust denied responsicyto-screener could oot have been expected to identify them.

A spokesman for the Trust denied there had been delays. He said: "The average settle-Trust, but yesterday saw the ment period is just 10 months. There are some cases of genoine dispute and the courts may be occded to resolve these."

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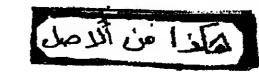
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The Italian Prime Minister, Romano Prodi (left), and Tony Blair embracing in Piazza Colonna, Rome, yesterday as they met on Mr Blair's brief visit to the city to discuss the European Union's next summit, which starts on 15 June in Cardiff Photograph: Filippo Monteforte/EPA

# Treasury sinks plans for new aircraft carriers

Thief Political Correspondent

TREASURY ministers have sunk George Robertson's plans to make two new aircraft carriers costing £8bn, a key part of

his strategic defence review. The Defence Secretary is being forced by the Treasury to concede that no date should be set for ordering the new warships and no budget allocation

will be made for them. "We didn't have aircraft carriers on our pledge card at the election," said a Treasury source. The Chancellor is targeting the £22bn defence budget for cuts to pay for big increases in health and education spend to answer claims that

keep its election pledges.

Mr Robertson is still battling to protect his £22bn defence hudget from deeper Treasury cuts and he has Tony Blair's backing for keeping all Britain's main commitments, including the nuclear capability with the Trident submarines.

But the Defence Secretary was given a hard grilling by Alistair Darling, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, in a bilateral meeting this week, and faces a renewed onslaught from the Treasury team within the Cabinet Committee on Defence and Overseas Policy. which is considering his strategic defence review plans.

"We believe the carriers are part of a coherent plan for making our forces more responsive. But we have a battle on our hands," said a defence source.

Mr Robertson has offered cuts totalling £500m, including units in the Territorial Army reserves, but the Treasury wants more than a £1bn in cuts. It is demanding more value for money, able MoD land and property. many overseas tours of duties. such as surplus grace and favour houses for the "hrass hats".

The Defence Secretary has Britain greater firepower in to national service.

the Government risks failing to areas such as the Gulf. They would be similar in size to the American carriers, which can allow conventional jet fighters to operate from their decks.

Britain's fleet of smaller carriers are limited to using the Harrier jump-jets, which had difficulty operating in intense heat in the Gulf zone.

Defence sources said all of the services have been forced to make cuts to afford the improvements.

There's something in it for everyone," said a source. The RAF could see its combat aircraft reduced, but it will have the bonus of securing the order for the European Fighter Aircraft (EFA), which the Treasury wanted to abandon.

The Army's tank force on the Rhine - formerly the front line against the Soviet forces - will be reduced, but a presence will be maintained to underline Britain's Nato commitment in Europe. controversial savings on front-line Army recruitment is in be stepped up with an extra 3,500 troops, and a sixth rapid deployment brigade is to be estabwith more effort to sell off valu- among troops forced to do too

The sources said the army would be a fifth option in New Labour's "new deal" for jobs, included the hig new generation hut service would be voluntary, of carriers in his plans to give and there would be no return

# Adams backs prisoners' Bill

By Colin Brown and Alan Murdoch

of terrorist prisoners from: Up to 400 jailed paramili-Belfast jails as part of the North-ern freemed peace process ves posed legislation published as terday very the base of George part of the Good Friday agree-Adams, the sum tem president, ment. Ms Mowlam said: There

Ulster Unionists. A Downing Street spokesman suddenly be thrown open." insisted the Northern Ireland An independent body is to

sioning terrorist weapons. "The bottom line is that no prisoner will be released unless the organisation they are related to have given up violence for

good," the spokesman said. Although the Bill does not detail the terms of the surrender of weapons, clause three gives the Secretary of State, Mo Mowlam, the power to bar prisoners from release if she believes their organisations have

refused to give up violence. The Northern Ireland Office denied that it would pave the way to legalise the IRA. Ending pro-

Northern Ireland Emergency Provisions Act and the Home Office Prevention of Terrorism Act, which is not planned.

and David Trimble, leader of the will be no general amnesty. The gates of the Maze prison will not

(Sentences) Bill meets the Prime be set up to review each case, Minister's pledges linking pris- prisoner by prisoner, but only those belonging to organisations who declared unequivocal ceasefires will be considered for release on licence.

Sinn Fein's Gerry Kelly said: "According to this legislation there will be a substantial number of releases by the end of the summer and we intend to hold the British government to that."

Mr Adams said: "Clearly in the Good Friday agreement the bottom line is that all of the prisoners need to be out within two years. I see that as the key part in this legislation."

Despite welcoming the Bill Mr Trimble said his party would scription of the IRA would re- he tabling amendments "to try quire the repeal of sections of the to make it watertight".



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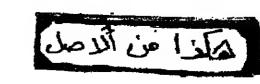
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When it comes to boozy nights out, today's footballers are novices, says Phil Shaw

IMAGINE the scene. George Best sprawls naked on his hotel bed. A small fortune in casmo winnings is strewn on the bedside table. As Miss World emerges from the bathroom to join him, there is a knock on the door: room service with the champagne. Surveying the scene, the porter shakes his head. "George," he says plaintively. "Where did it all go wrong?"

The moral panic which greeted the revelations about Paul Gascoigne's latest drinking spree and Teddy Sheringham's presence in a Portuguese night-cluh until dawn must have brought knowing smiles from Best and other survivors from the Bingeing Sixties. By their standards, or lack of them, Gazza and his fellow guzziers are mere novices.

Jimmy Greaves, a contemporary of Best's and arguably the English game's finest post-war striker, was the first high-profile player to admit to being an alcoholic. In 1979, he published a book, This One's On Me, in which he blamed the win-at-all-costs mentality.

According to Greaves, players were so stoked up for games that they needed a heavy after-match session to bring them "down to earth". His addiction started with pints. But even then, 20 years ago, he had noticed a set hooked on spirits springing up.

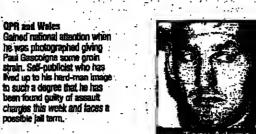
Yet with one conspicuous exception, when he and Bobby Moore were caught out on the town before a West Ham match at Blackpool, Greaves' habit was not a public issue until he made it one. Best had more trouble keeping his problems private, though he performed for a decade at the top level before his form suffered.

In time, he would turn his lifestyle to financial advantage oo the afterdinner circuit, "I spent a lot of my money on booze, birds and fast cars," he sighed. The rest I just squandered." Joking aside, the drinking led to a world-class talent being dumped by Bournemouth and Hibernian.

Among Best's contemporaries, the gifted Alan Hudson made no secret of his liking for liquid refreshment. When the current England player, Tony\_Adams, confessed his alcoholism - soon to be followed by Paul Merson - Hudson suggested in a newspaper column that the Arsenal

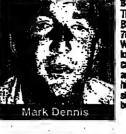








Arsenal and England When they talked about the double at Arsenal Tony used to nod and Anonymous when his membge suffered. Now a new man, but



gembling and drugs while part of the macho

bledon's Crazy G im one of the origina



volved young Charlton Athletic players, although Shane Nicholson was morale in the squad. sacked by West Bromwich last month It is the same with Paul Gas-

> Alcohol causes dehydration as well as imparing mental capacity. We are all familiar with hangovers. It can take 24 hours to recover from one and if you are performing the next day that may cause serious problems. The real issue with drink is the risk of an accident that the drinker is ex-

settled, but he has since moved on to scraps in

whose career was hit b bad injuries and even

Everton and Scotland Just when you thought Scots were becoming sensible, along comes Duncan Disorderly. Several brushes with the law in his native land and a head-butt during a game led to a jail sentence in Berlinnie. Left Scotland for a quieter life and now snubs the



Keith Gillespie, Best's fellow

"fought" Alan Shearer outside a bar

and has a reputation for gambling,

Stan Bowles is probably football's

nost infamous friend of the bookies.

He joined Queen's Park Rangers to

be near White City dog track. One manager lamented: "If only Stan

often wagering four-figure sums.

Manchester United and Northern Ireland The Beliast boy who created the image of footbeller as Man About unage of noneaser as man noun, Town. Drink and women were his downfall, with a string of boozy nights and affairs. He had an implant inserted to stop him drinking, such was his mental trafity. Recently evicted from his London flat, a reminder that the

after failing tests. There is, however, a parallel tendency of players obsessed with fitness and diet. In the Scottish squad, a group led by Monaco's John Collins known as "the Gym Cluh".

Among their forerunners in the 1930s was the Blackpool and Northern Ireland player Peter Doherty, who once recalled how he and a team-mate were teased by the other players, "They used to chant: 'They don't drink, they don't smoke, they don't go out with women. What do they live for?' There was a one-word

answer to that - football.

Bingeing raises questions of morale

Dr Ken Fox, exercise and sports science expert at Exeter University. talks to Jeremy Laurance

"GOING on a one-night bender may have nasty short-term effects hut they are unlikely to last longer than a day. The much more serious question is whether England play-ers who risk their hard-won fitness clubhing all night are mentally prepared for the rigours of international competitive sport.

What was Teddy Sheringham thinking of, carousing into the small hours in a Portuguese nightclub? Why would he do that, assuming the reports are accurate, a matter of days before the opening game of the World Cup when it is critical that he be at peak fitness? When you go on a binge you are out of control and vulnerable – you can be injured, you can walk into a wall or have an accident. Alcohol breeds violence, and for a public figure there is a risk of being assaulted, too.

Partying, smoking and drinking may not be a problem in terms of their short-term physical effects. One night on the tiles is not going to damage the fitness level of a highly tuned athlete. The key issue is what this says about discipline and

coigne. His supporters say he is not fit enough yet - but he could be in time. The question is: why is he not fit now? What does that say about his attitude?

posed to. That is why it is a threat to performance."

captain was not in Bobby Moore's class as a defender or a drinker.

Despite having the King's Road on his doorstep, Hudson decamped from Chelsea to Stoke in the 1970s. His manager there, Tony Waddington, was famous for indulging players provided they performed. It was said locally that they "trained" in a night-club called Jollees.

Excess was not confined to the big names. The long-haired, wild-eyed Robin Friday, of Reading and Cardiff, spent one New Year's Eve drankenly dancing on puh tables. The next morning, marked by Bobby Moore, he scored twice.

In those days, Scottish football was synonymous with bravado fuelled by And at the 1990 finals in Italy. Mo

Cup, winger Jimmy Johnstone was found at sea in a rowing boat in a selfconfessed "drunken stupor". When he was rescued he was singing "Sailing".

A year later, after winning in Denmark, several of the Scotland team, including the captain, Billy Bremner, went on a club crawl. It ended after a player threw a rum and coke in a barmaid's face and the police were called. Bremner and the rest of the "Copenhagen Five" were banned from representing their country again.

Scandal also followed Scotland to Argentina in 1978, when Willie Johnston was sent home after testing positive for a banned substance.

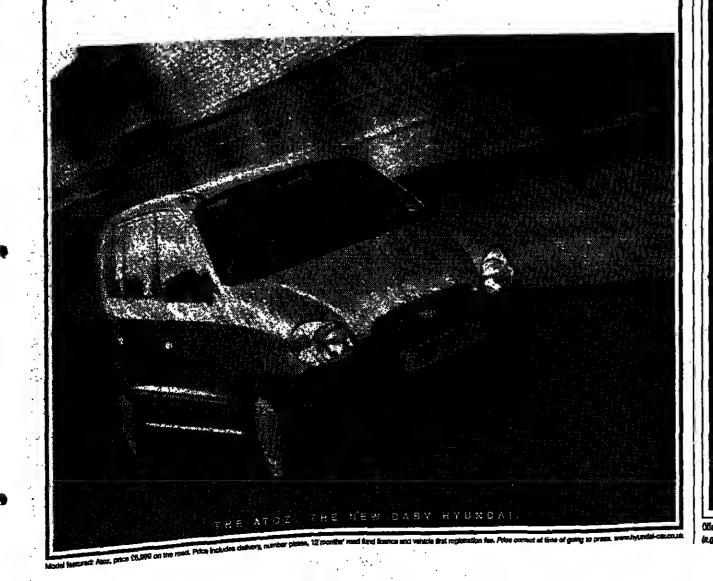
"the bevvy". Before the 1974 World | Johnston reportedly led colleagues in search of "birdz 'n' booze". Of an-Northern Irishman, is another modother Scot, Frank McAvennie, it was ern player who has gained notoriety. said that "his tipple was nipple". He was recently alleged to have

Almost single-handedly, Duncan Ferguson, Everton's former Rangers striker, has carried on the ignoble tradition, "Duncan Disorderly" already had a record for assault when he was sent to Barlinnie prison for giving an opponent a "Glasgow kiss". On arriving on Merseyside, he was soon arrested on a drink-driving charge. Despite the Scots' lack of scoring

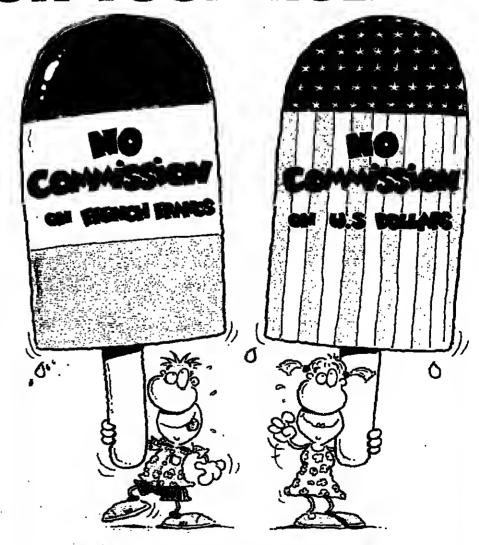
power, Ferguson asked to be left out of the squad for the World Cup. Scotland's present team is almost Cliff Richard-clean by comparison with their predecessors.

could pass a betting shop like he can pass a hall." While there is no British drug casualty of Diego Maradona's standing, a spate of cases involving "recreational" drugs has arisen during the 1990s. A number, curiously, have in-

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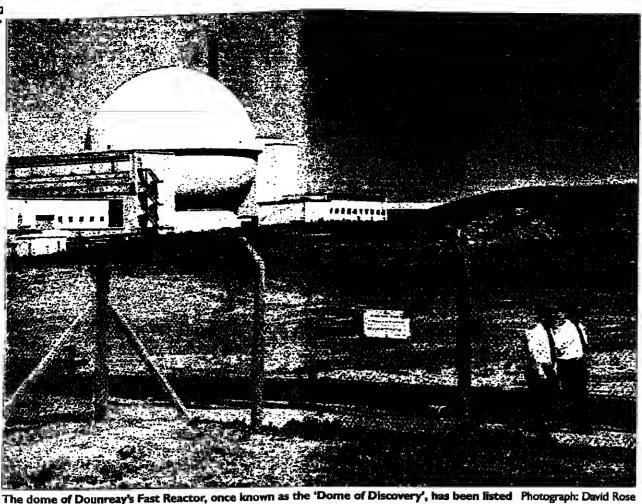


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# The experiment ends, but Dounreay lives on

swift. A hrief press conference in Edinhurgh yesterday morning and Dounreay, the nuclear plant where they "lost" enough uranium for 10 Hiroshimas, was history. The beast lay dead, anti-nuclearists singing and dancing on its corpse.

As with all such things, however, little is as it appears. Not much will change at the proessing plant near Thurso, on the far north coast of Scotland. Dounreay was on its last legs long before yesterday's announcement. Its life as a nuclear power station ended in 1994. Besides a tiny amount of highly enriched uranium brought in secretly from the former Soviet republic of Georgia, it has only one reprocessing contract, from

Despite this, Dounreay has made headlines repeatedly through a series of embarrass-

THE END, when it came, was While the nuclear plant is to close, its work will continue for years, writes Charles Arthur

> plant accepted the shipment of spent reactor fuel from Georgia despite the fact that its reprocessing plants had been shut down by the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate on the grounds that many of the ventilation systems urgently need-

ed replacing.
It was fined in court for having allowed three employees to receive one-off internal radiation doses greater than the annual allowed dose. And a mechanical digger sliced through power cables for a processing area and the backup power system for the venti-

lation system failed to kick in. Currently Roy Nelson, the plant's director, has nine gov-

ing mishaps and pratfalls. The ernment nuclear inspectors

crawling over his plant. Dr Nelson admitted that a new £1m electrified fence had to be installed around key areas of complex last year, after mock terrorists managed to walk into the plant during a security exercise. "It's not a question of just getting in, but of how long it takes," he said. "Any challenge that's mounted will replicate what terrorists might do. The police are here to protect the materials on-site."

Perhaps most alarming has been the accidental leakage of nuclear material from the plant. A number of radioactive partictes as big as a grain of sand have been discovered lately on the beach and in the sea near at Dounreay, working on Dounreay. But radioactivity achieving criticality - a self-susthe beach and in the sea near dating shows that they date back to the Sixties, rather than from some modern-day process. Dr Nelson has complex geological explanations for how they may have surfaced.

Steve Gashmore, now 50, worked in the plant for 18 years from the late Seventies until he took early retirement. He is unway nuclear material was handled at the plant in the past: "In the US at that time they used to dig a hole and throw things down it. In Russia they would just throw it in a lake.

With all the environmental stuff, you have to understand it in the context of the time before judging it. Forty years ago you could get in a car without wearing a seat belt, without an MOT, and there was no such thing as drunk driving. We're judging the past by the standards of today."

Nevertheless, environmentalists and concerned local residents managed to crank up the pressure on a Labour government sensitive about its standing in Scotland.

The final straw came when a report by the UK Atomic Energy Authority, which owns and operates the site, suggested that 170kg of fissile "material unaccounted for", including weapons-grade uranium, might be lurking down the 216ft deep waste shaft. The shaft itself was the site of a (non-nuclear) known as the "Dome of Disexplosion in 1977 caused by covery". sodium metal coolant coming into contact with water. Cynics suggested that the "lost" material had actually been diverted to the UK's weapons pro-

secrecy that surrounded Dounreay. Mere hours before the closure announcement Dr Nelson was insisting that he wanted his staff to move away from the culture of secrecy - with an almost obsessive worship of the Official Secrets Act - that prevailed for the first 30 years of the plant's life. "I think it's hecause the atomic energy business was strongly connected to weapons, where there had to be high degree of security."

That was hack at the height of the cold war, when Dounreay was a pinnacle of British achievement. Few people know its reactor was in fact the first in the world to produce electricity for public consump-

Eric Voice remembers the moment Dounreay drew its first breath: "It was mid-1957. There was a team of three of us taining, chain reaction in nuclear material. I had built a sort of sphere shape of material, and I remember being on the verge of causing criticality. All I had to do was press a button with my finger. So I called over my colleagues so we could all press the button together."

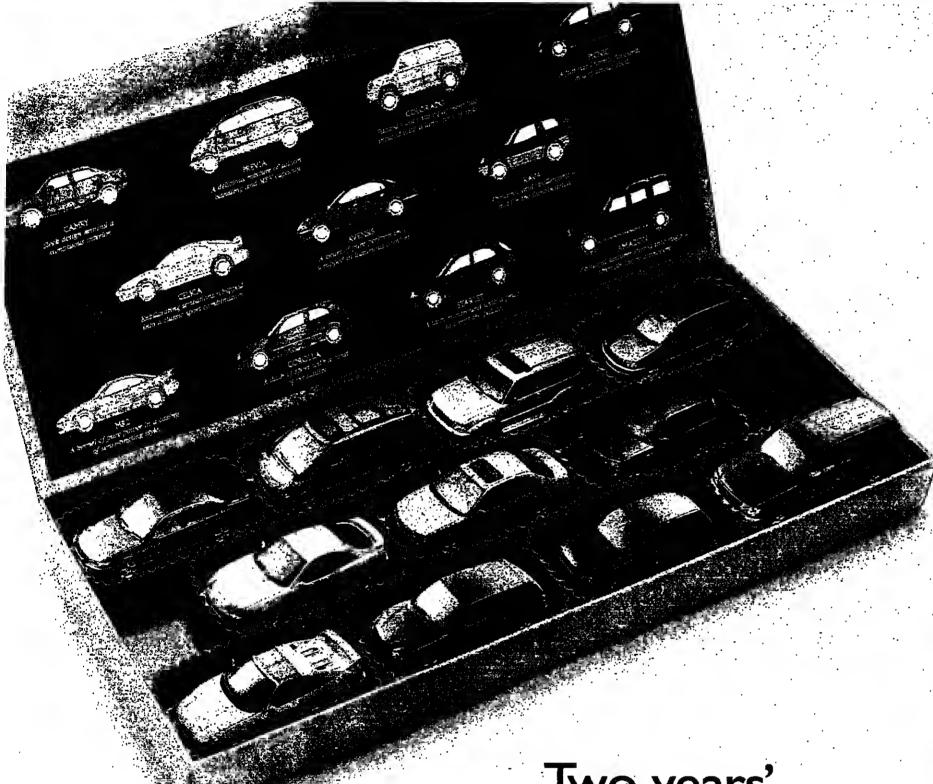
It demonstrated that numoved by protests about the clear power could be generated safely in the north as well as the south of the British isles. "Before then, nobody had heard of the region of Caithness," says Dr Voice, now in his seventies and still living in Thurso. "It was almost a pilgrimage to come here; we felt we were driving the future,'

He dismissed this week's speculation about the "lost" uranium: "When you're reprocessing fuel, the uranium, or whatever, comes dissolved in solution. The plant doesn't drain completely - there will be areas with hold-ups. You'll get a difference between what you thought you put in and what you get out,"

He was the first scientist on the site, and worked out of a Nissen hut while the complex was constructed, boosting Thurso's population from 3,000 to more than 8,000 people.

in those days everything seemed possible. The spherical shell that would house the Dounreay Fast Reactor was

been listed by Scottish Heritage tinue to process nuclear material, at least until 2006. And maybe, in 100 years or so, its door will finally close.



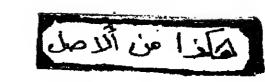
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# Designs for Scottish parliament building unveiled

By Nonie Niesewand Architecture Correspondent

SCOTTISH MPs will debate home rule in a towering veil made of transpareot mesh in the year 2001, if the Australiabased practice Denton Corker Marshall is chosen to be the architect of the oew Scottish parliament.

Alternatively, they may be under scrutiny in a glass lantern with their talking heads beamed onto buge ontdoor wraparound screens, if UK-based practice, Michael Wilford and Partners is chosen.

The first designs for Scotland's oew parliament were unveiled at the Royal Museum of Scotland in Edinhurgh yesterday as five finalists from a sbortlist of 12 revealed their ideas for the most important public building to be commissioned this century.

On Monday six other centres in Scotland will exhibit presentation boards from the five rival architects. The public is invited to comment and a winner will be chosen oext month by a Select Committee of MPs.

"At this stage we're not choosing a scheme, hut choosing a firm to work with," says Professor Andy McMillan. He is keeo to avoid a knee-jerk reaction to designs which the architects say are still fluid. Nevertheless what you see is pretty well what you are likely to get, with some modifications, because nobody could afford the time to start all over again with a blank piece of paper. Besides, the finalists have speot a great deal of time working on the exacting brief from the Scottish Utilice

The Secretary of State, Donald Dewar is pleased with the results: "The ideas are imaginative and exciting and give me confidence that we shall find a team to provide a fitting home for the parliameot."

So MPs could find themselves in a glass tower looking up at an elliptical saucer if

FRANCE

based architectural practice is the wincer.

Canvassing opinions in just a fortnight is a challenge. So the canny Scottish Office restricted the finalists to presenting their ideas on six big presentation boards rather than expeosive scale models. Some architects are better at story boards than others.

Expressing Scotland's history while delivering modernity is the architectural challenge. The palace of Holyrood, where the Royal Family stays wheo it visits Edinburgh, will be the new huilding's nearest oeighbour. It must have been the inspiration for EuroDisney: turretted towers flourished with flagpoles

Of all the schemes, Wilford's has been most sympathetic to Holyrood, giving it an axial symmetry while turning its face upon the palace. One historic building, Queensberry House, stands oo the site. At one end of the Royal Mile side looms Salisbury Crags. At the other, Edinburgh Castle.

But ex-pat Scot, James Gibson, from Denton Corker Marshall, is keen on the fact you will have to look down upon the Parliament: "It's not hierarchical. We don't look up at it. Scottisb people like to take an overview of the whole process of parliament."

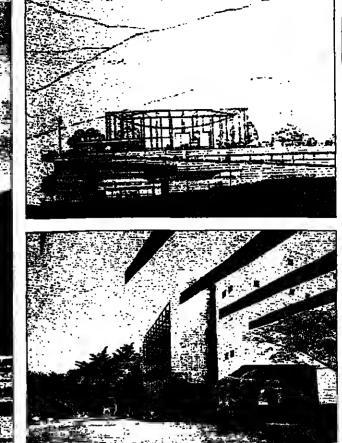
So the firm's building is less obvious, shaped like a teardrop in silver perforated mesh, folding in on itself. When Scottish Office civil servants saw the design for the first time, they called it "Scotland's Guggenheim" but James Gibsoo says it is oeither iconic, nor precious.

For over a century Scottish English architects to design. So does this disadvantage Londonbased Michael Wilford, who plans to send his core team headed by Laurence Bain to Edinburgh if he wins?

"There is oo hias expressed in nationality," declares one observer. "They're are looking for a great architect who has the



Michael Wilford & Partners' futuristic design (main picture), Rafael Vinoly's design (top right) and Glass Murray & Denton (bottom right)







courts for Wednesday 1st July 1998 with full hospitality.

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Singles final at Wimbledon?



Albanian walking past a house burnt down by Serb police in a village near Pristina

# Refugees vow to fight thiopia l Serbs to the death

MEN TAKING their families across the border from Kosovo to Albania to escape a Serb artillery offensive are purchasing arms and other supplies, and returning to fight the enemy. They all have one objective: to fight the Serbs and defend what is left of their homes in Kosovo.

"This is not a surrender." said nne 30-year-old man as he registered his wife and four children as refugees at the mosque in Tropoje, in northern Albania. "All men will go back and fight," he said. The men said they were tired of waiting for foreign powers to force the Yugoslav President, Slobodan Milosevic, to stop the assault on their villages, which have caused tens of thousands to flee.

"We waited for years for the international community to prevent the outbreak of this war," said Shaban Lukja, 48, from border in the past few days was



Kosovo. "But now that there is little hope left, we shall take care of it ourselves."

A spokeswoman for the UN refugee agency said that setting a figure on the total numbers who had crossed the Albanian

still difficult, but estimates remained at about 10,000.

"Our people on the spot report very moving scenes of people coming down the mountainside and literally collapsing when they get to the plateau," Judith Kumin said. "People are walking between 12 hours and three days to get over the

The UNHCR said the latest arrivals had reported five deaths from exhaustion on the journey - two elderly people and three children. The refugees are fleeing from the Decani-Djakovica area of western Kosovo, where Serb forces have launched a massive operation against what they say is an Albanian insurrection.

In Tropoja, horses and mules license plates transporting young men in camouflage uniforms and the sound of sporadic gunfire make the border town seem like a military base. While thousands of women, children, and elderly have found refuge with families or in makeshift shelters, the men, with few exceptions, are gearing up for war.

Youths under the age of 20 are being trained to handle made to hide the military prepa-

The Kosovo Liberation Army, an underground guerrilla force fighting for Kosovo's in- Lapusnik area, south-west of dependence, is not much in Pristma, could be the next fo-

have been seen in the area.

In Tropoja, guns are changing hands in the central piazza. A Kalashnikov sells for DM350 German marks (£120); a cam-

ouflage uniform costs DM50. Tropoja is a small town in the impoverished north of Albania, and the 10,000 or so ethnic Albanian refugees have already outnumbered the 8,000 inhabitants. Newcomers are directed to other towns because Tropoja is overflowing.

In the provincial capital of Kosovo, Pristina, the Serbian police announced yesterday that they had taken control of the road connecting Pec and Djakovica, the two higgest towns in the west. "The road is now in police hands," said loaded with guns, vans without a source close to Serbian

The Serbs said the KLA in the border region was now split into groups and that the police were conducting "mopping up" operations in the woods. They treating into the Drenica area, the heartland of Albanian sepplan of cutting off their escape guns, and no attempt is being ing them in Drenica until lack of supplies and food forces them to surrender.

Western intelligence sources believe that the Maljisevo-

### Nato warns of military action over Kosovo

By Rupert Cornwell

THE Western powers vesterday stepped up their pressure on President Slobodan Milosevic. with their clearest warning yet that Nato would intervene militarily, if necessary, to prevent Serbian violence and alleged ethnic cleansing in the Albanianmajority province of Kosovo.

Speaking in Rome, Tony Blair declared that Kosovo would not degenerate into another Bosnia, where Western dithering is widely blamed for allowing war to drag on for three years. "We are examining every possible option," the Prime Minister said after talks with his Italian opposite number. Romano Prodi, "It would be a very serious error to underestimate our resolve."

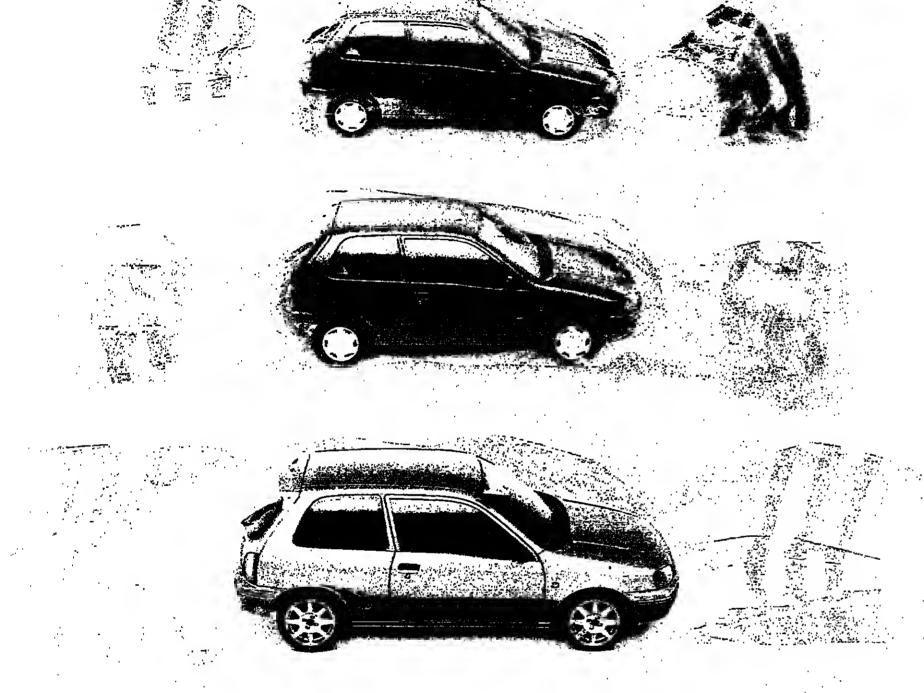
Earlier, the Secretary of State for Defence, George Robertson, was even more explicit: "The full power of Nato is considering all options, including the most radical ... military options that could, and might have to be, made available. President Milosevic should be under no illusion about this."

In an unusually blunt statement, the UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan accused the Serbs of "atrocities" in Kosovo and demanded that "this kind of aggressinn" be confronted "immediately and with determination."

The hope is that the tough talk will prod Mr Milosevic into meaningful negotiations with the ethnic Albanian majority over a new and special status for the province, granting wide autonomy but stopping short of full independence. But scheduled talks yesterday were boycotted by the Albanians in protest at the crackdown which has taken at least 50 lives in the past week, and there is no sign

when they might resume. Mr Robertson's words also reflect the growing realisation that Nato's initial plan, to deploy perhaps as many as 20,000 troops along Kosovo's border and in Macedonia to prevent the conflict spreading, might be counterproductive - actually helping the Serb cause by depriving guerrillas from the Kosovo Liberation Army of both supply lines and sanctuary in Alhania. The alternative would be direct intervention by

Nato forces inside the province. Alliance defence ministers will examine such plans at a meeting in Brussels next week. On Friday, the Contact Group Britain, the US. Russia, France, Germany and Italy, will gather in London. Almost certainly five of them, with Russia the usual dissenter, will tighten economic sanctions against Belgrade. They perhaps agree in principle to military intervention.



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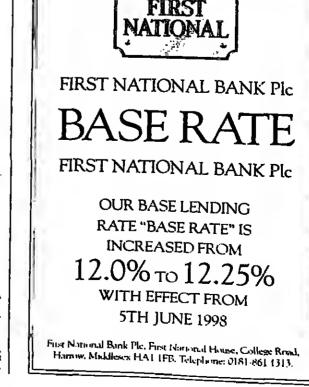
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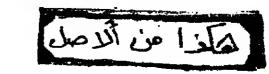
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# Ethiopia plunges into war with Eritrea

By Steve Crawshaw

A SIMMERING border dispute between Ethiopia and Eritrea exploded into full-scale war yesterday, with bombing raids by both sides

\_ .. Entrean warplanes bombed the northern Ethiopian town of Mekele twice, killing dozens of people and wounding more than 100.

After the first raid, Ethiopian warplanes bombed the Eritrean capital, Asmara. Ethiopian aircraft twice bombed an Eritrean air-force base in the city. Entrean antiaircraft guns downed two Eniopian aircraft, and thousands of jubilant Asmara residents rushed into the streets to celebrate, waving their young nation's red, blue and green flag. On the first run, the

bombers hit two hangars used as workshops, the tarmac, and a nearby junk yard.

No injuries were reported. Hundreds of people rushed to the airbase, attracted by the sound of the explosions and the heavy smoke in the air. Eritrean soldiers moved in to clear civilians out of the base.

Chartered aircraft were due to evacuate hundreds of foreigners, including Britons, from Asmara, where the airport remained open.

The attacks came a day after Ethiopia's Prime Minister, Meles Zeoawi, warned that his country's patience with Eritrea



An Eritrean army missile being fired into Ethiopia near the countries' border, the focus for their simmering dispute

mara's refusal to withdraw from Meles said the Ethiopian army occupied a month ago. However, he denied that Addis Ababa was preparing for full-scale conflict. "I am not declaring war in Eritrea," he said. "I am saywas wearing thin because of Asing enough is enough." Mr

territory that Ethiopia claims it had orders to "take all necessary measures against repeated Eritrean aggressioo". Eritrea vowed that it would never give in "to the language of force and intimidation".

Eritrea and Ethiopia have

been engaged in a border dispute accusing the other of invading. for nearly a month, though in recent days they appeared to he inching towards an internationally brokered settlement. The Ethiopian raid may have scuppered that. The dispute turned violeot on 6 May with both

The dispute centres on a rocky triangle of land that both countries lay claim to. The border has been ill-defined since Eritrea gained independence from Ethiopia in 1993, after a long-fought rebel war.

Eritrea's Presideot, Issaias

Afewerki, and the Ethiopian Prime Minister were, ironicallv. comrades in arms in the struggle to oust the 17-year Soviet-backed Meogistu regime, paving the way for Eritrea's the last fight available "we peaceful move to independence would be on our own".

in 1993. Now they are at each other's throats, upsetting the assertion advanced by US President Bill Clinton that a new and visionary group of ex-guerrilla leaders is transforming Africa.

Eritrea wants recognition for borders mapped by the Italians when they seized Eritrea as a colony in 1885. They do not accept the borders granted to Eritrea within pre-1993 Ethiopia.

Britain joined the United States and most Western countries yesterday in urging its nationals to leave Eritrea because of the clashes and said it was trying to arrange flights out of Asmara. "We're strongly advising British oationals to leave Eritrea." a Foreign Office spokesman said. There are some

120 British people in Eritrea. Jane Malone, one of the Britons preparing to leave Eritrea last night, told BBC Radio that a colleague had been warned by the British Consulate that if they did not take IN BRIEF

#### Woodward question

THE pathologist who carried out the post-mortem oo Boston baby Matthew Eappen in the Louise Woodward trial is under investigation.

According to US newspaper reports, Dr Gerald Feigin is being investigated for failing to spot a serious heart defect in the body of a 34-yearold-man. He testified last year that Matthew had injuries consistent with heing vigorously shaken. The doctor has since resigned from his post to take up another job.

#### Dana a man

THE head of a rabbinical court ruled that Dana International, Israel's celebrated transsexual singer, could be counted in a minyao, the group of 10 meo required for Jewish prayer services. However, the sultry winner of this year's Eurovision contest would have to become religiously observant hefore qualifying for prayer group, the court said. - AP, Jerusolem

#### **Haider runs**

AUSTRIA's far-right Freedom Party said its leader Joerg Haider will run for governor of Carinthia province in March next year, a position he was forced to resign in 1991 after praising Nazi labour policies. - Reuters, Vienna

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# McDonald's World Cup win has French seething

By John Lichfield

THE best-known names in French cooking yesterday bast-Donald's as the "official restaurant" of the World Cup in international recown. The France. "It has been known "partners" were chosen by the from the time of the Emperor world football body, Fifa. Vespasian that money has no months ago, on the basis of the smell; thanks to the World Cop, size of their sponsorship bids. we also know that it has no taste," thundered a joint decla- McDonald's being associated ration by the five associations with the competition," said Ferwhich represent French chefs nand Mischler, president of Mr Mischler, who runs the celand restaurants. (Since it is a the Unioo Française de la Cui-rare event for these bodies to sine. "We strongly object to Meagree on anything, the common Donald's being named as the declaration was, in itself, a sign of set how annoyed they are.)

The depressing truth is that the Freoch World Cup will flavour. McDonald's, Coca-Cola, Snickers and Anheuser geous and absurd."

Busch (brewers of Budweiser) figure among the 12 "official partners" of the competition, which begins oo Wednesday.

The list includes oo repreand drink industry, despite its

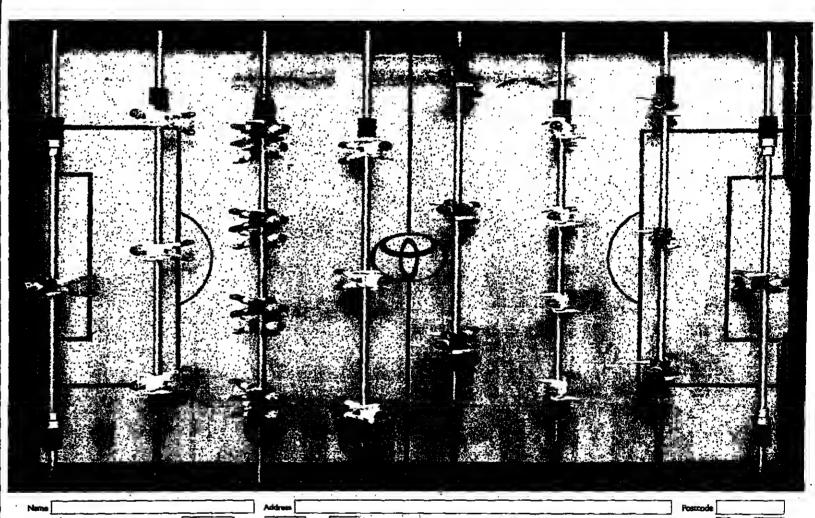
"We have no problem about

our visitors supposed to think? That hamburgers and ketchup have, officially, little French are the true representatives of French cooking. It is outra-

The five organisations, representing everyone from Haute Cuisine chefs to young bistroowners, said the football authorities could have negotiated ed and grilled the choice of Mo-sentatives of the French food some kind of deal with French restaurants "in all their diversity". Instead they chose the "simple and profitable" route of dealing with McDonald's, the global representative of "hamhurger imperialism".

But do fast-food and sport not go together like boots and ebrated restaurant, L'Auberge du Chevai Blanc, oear Strasbourg. "If a footballer, or even 'official restaurant' of the a supporter, eats McDonald's French World Cup. What are every day, he will not keep going to the end of the World Cup. Better that they should go to a little restaurant and take the Plat du Jour at 45 francs

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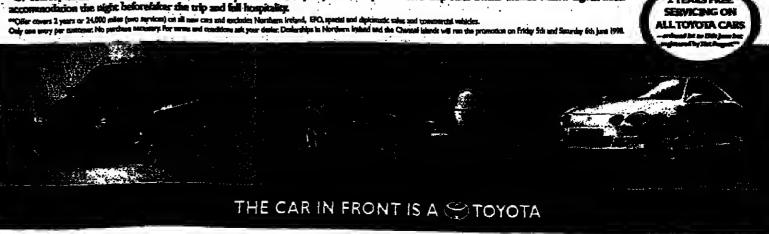
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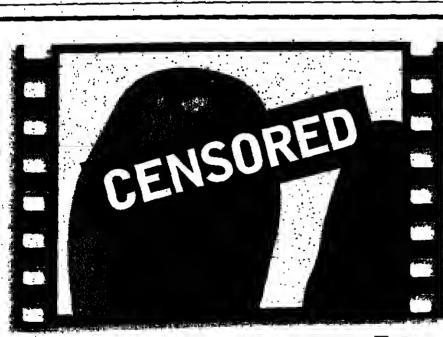
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to drive all the way to France, maybe just the airport! World Cop Final tickets include recent flights, hosel educion the night beforelaker the trip and full hospitality.





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Just weeks after winning political freedom Muslim radicals are talking of creating a fundamentalist state

# New spectre of religious violence haunts Indonesia

By Richard Lloyd Parry ın jakarta

FOR ALL the euphoria which accompanied the end of presi- this week by Amien Rais, the dent Subarto's rule, a nightmare country's moderate Muslim ophaunts Indonesia and the first position leader. Referring to the inkling of it came two weeks religious carnage which tore ago, barely a day after the fall of the dictator.

The scene was the Parliament where thousands of students could also happen to Indonesia." had camped out all week, singing, dancing and chanting slogans. The day before, in re- for religious conflict. Eighty sponse to their demands, Mr Suharto had resigned and the ple are Muslim, making it the demonstrators were already turning their fire on his vice-president and successor, BJ Habibie. Then, in the early afternoon, the victorious students suddenly found themselves overwhelmed.

Without warning, and within minutes, the Parliament was occupied by 10,000 young Muslim activists who had arrived in dozens of hired buses. Anti-Habibie posters were ripped down and replaced with new ones praising the new president.

There were scuffles, as the demonstrators were driven off the steps of Parliament, and the new crowd cheered as their leaders gave speeches and they chanted slogans rhythmically in Arabic. "For 30 years Muslims had nothing under [Suharto's] New Order, and all the money went to Chinese and Christians," said Darwin Agus, of the Islamic Youth of Indonesia. "Habibie is a good start in preparing for the next step,

government by the Koran." The Muslim crowd departed peacefully, and such scenes have not been repeated. But the in-tolerant and accommodating cident looked uncomfortably like a portent: hours after the country's moment of freedom, on the symbolic site of its lib-

mentalist state. More than most countries. Indonesia is haunted by the fear of religious violence, which was put into words apart Bosnia from 1992-95, he said: "ft's not impossible that what bappened to Yugoslavia

Judging from statistics, Indonesia tooks like a country ripe per cent of its 202 million peolargest Islamic country in the world. But that still teaves a 40 million-strong minority, comprising Christians, Buddhists and Hindus. Economically powerful, these minorities are increasingly nervous.

They are unevenly distributed throughout the vast archipelago. In East Timor, Catholics are the majority, and are fighting for independence against a predominantly Muslim army. In Aceh, on the northern tip of Sumatra, Islamic fundamentalists, some trained in Libya, bave run an intermittent guerrilla war against the

government of Jakarta. Over the past two years, economic and political discontent has regularly been expressed along racial or sectarian lines. Churches have been burnt down in several cities, and the principal victims of last month's riots were ethnic Chinese, most of them Buddhist or Christian.

But these alarming facts can obscure a striking fact about Islam in Indonesia: its unusually character. Partly this is a factor of history - Islam was introduced peacefully and gradually by medieval Arab traders, and it was talking about creating a funda- with traditional folk beliefs. politics in a religious form.

Some see it also as a reflection of South-east Asian culture and geography. "We are the only Muslim nation in the form of islands," said the Muslim scholar and reformer, Nurcholish Madjīd. "We have a green, equatorial climate while other Islamic nations are barren land or desert. That must have something to do with the difference."

But Indonesian Islam has also been affected by the Indonesian political doctrine, or "national ideology", known as Pancasila - "the five principles". On the face of it, the Pancasila are so vague and benevolent as to be nearly meaningless: belief in a divine essence (Islamic, Christian, Hindu, or Buddhist); justice and civility among peoples; national unity; democracy through consensus: and social justice. They have been interpreted in wholly different ways by Mr Subarto and their inventor, Indonesia's founding president, Sukarno. But the vagueness was calculated, and the Pancasila remain a formula for national unity and co-existence in one of the world's most diverse states.

Under Mr Suharto, political unity was enforced: only three parties were permitted and all of them were tools of the president. Throughout his 32-year reign he played rival Muslim leaders off against each other. One of Mr Habibie's most striking concessions to the spirit of reform has been to allow the formation of new parties.

Of the bandful that have been unveiled, two are Muslim Syarikat Islam and New Masyumi, both revivals of parties banned in the 1950s. The question is whether Indonesia is ready for such freedom, and how its fragile unity will bear up filtered through, and mingled to the pressure of strident mass



A demonstrator scaling the gates of the US embassy in Jakarta yesterday during a protest by Muslims demanding that the US stops interfering in Indonesia's internal affairs Photograph: AP | eign policy vis-a-vis Pakistan on for health.

# India dashes • hope of early nuclear ban

WHILE THE longer term consequences of the Indian and Pakistani nuclear tests are anybody's guess, the Indian Prime Minister, Atal Behari Vajpayee, took the opportunity on Thursday firmly to scotch the notion that India might now move swiftly to sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). Although Nebru was, in 1954, the first statesman in the . world to give voice to the notion of a test ban treaty - back then they called it a "Standstill Agreement" - as the CTBT became a reality through the early 1990s, India, as one of the threshold" nuclear states which had never tested, adopted the role of spoiler.

With five successful tests now under its belt, a unilateral moratorium on testing in place and a stated position that India now possesses enough data to obviate the need for further testing, it was thought that India might be preparing to win back the world's approval by signing. But Mr Vajpayee told the upper house of India's Lok Sabha (parliament): "We have said that we are ready to hold talks on the CTBT, but there is no question of signing the treaty in its present form."

He denied that India had made the tests with a particular adversary in mind, "India is not engaged in any arms race. Our nuclear tests were not

the direction of Pakistan. "We the Kashmir question if Pakistan wanted to raise it," be said, "but we have not got any positive reresponse will come, both countries will sit together to find solutions to the problems.

comed Mr Vajpayee's speech, calling it "a positive move" and

the question of Kashmir". The two sides remain miles apart, however, as Pakistan insists on third party mediation over the future of Kashmir, while India will only permit it to be treated as a bilateral issue.

After a lacklustre Indian Budget on Monday which led most commentators to dismiss India's prospects for econom ic recovery any time soon, the credit rating agencies said trad tests, and the lack of meas to stimulate private investm in the Budget, have "intensit country's sovereign rating. Par



Vajpayee: India's leader denies agressive intent

istan's rating has already been lowered by Standard & Poor's,

and may be lowered further. "India and Pakistan, with their nuclear tests are two beggars fighting," was one Indian's jaded reaction to the accumulating bad economic news. And aimed at anybody," be insisted. at the launch in Delhi of a new, He made dove-like noises in organisation to fight the government's nuclear arms policy, were even prepared to discuss the Movement in India for Nnclear Disarmament, or MIND, one speaker pointed out that "the total outlay for the Ministry sponse so far. We hope that the of Health and Welfare" in the just-announced Budget - 36.8 billion rupees, about £540m was "well below just the increase Pakistan's foreign minister, in defence expenditure". The in-Gohur Ayub Khan, later wel- crease in allocation to the Departments of Space and Atomic Energy was more than five "a definite shift in India's for- times the increase in the outlay

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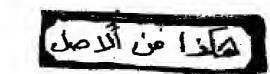
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Affeam cutting through train wreckage at Eschede yesterday as the rescue work drew to a close

# Flaw in German train design 'caused crash'

By Imre Karaçs n Eschede

THE GIANT cranes stood idle for most of yesterday as rescue teams hacked at the last 300-ton slab of concrete by hand. Undemeath the rubble of Eschede's road bridge, the crushed metal gave up yet another corpse, bringing the death toll of Germany's worst rail disaster to 96.

Apart from 20 victims, the majority of the dead remain scientific work is completed, most relatives will not be confronted with the task of claiming the unideotifiable. Even dental records will not suffice in most cases because the victims' teeth and jaws are smashed beyood recognition.

As the rescue work drew to its conclusioo, the special investigators took over. Yesterday.

wheel in the carriage immediately behind the locomotive.

Government officials in Bonn confirmed that the steel terday, and the first 10 were rim of the wheel had broken dur- back on track in the afternoon. ing the journey. Beyond ruling out sabotage, they could offer no safety concerns. It emerged yesexplanation. Metal fatigue re- terday that the train had remained the prime suspect.

What occurred after the wheel rim snapped is clearer. At the points approaching Eschede nameless. Until the forensic station, the broken wheel is thought to have jumped the rail. clude that it was not the train that Travelling at an angle, the protruding first carriage struck the bridge pillars and wrenched itself off the locomotive. Several coaches got past the bridge before it collapsed. The greatest oumber of dead were in the

they gathered more evidence has raised questions about the fic at lower speeds. The TGV's pointing the blame at the third safety of first-generation Inter undercarriage is regarded by City Express (ICE) trains. The remaining 59 trains of this type were hurriedly inspected yes-

> But the checks will not allay ceived its 20,000km service on the eve of its final journey, and

had been given a clean bill of

Experts are beginning to conwas flawed, but perhaps the fundamental design of ICEs. Unlike the French TGV, which is a high-speed train designed to run on dedicated tracks, Germany's ICE is a tag-on to existing tracks.

The track cutting through fourth car, which got past the Eschede is an upgraded lowbridge but flipped over on its side. tech line, and the flyover that This account of the accident collapsed was designed for traf-

German experts as safer and more sophisticated than the suspect wheels of the ICE.

The list of unflattering comparisons is long. The articulated coupling of ICE coaches is considered less stable than TGV technology. The second- and third-generation ICEs are better designed and lighter than those that crashed at Eschede. Germany has not invested as much in building high-speed tracks, yet German Railways tries to keep up with French speeds. The French cut straight through the countryside. The Germans cut corners in other ways.

How much of this will be in the final report on the Eschede tragedy remains to be seeo. A lot of national pride rests in the ICE. Potential clients around the world choosing between

# Satanic cult drove boy to kill mother'

By Mary Dejevsky in Washington

A TEENAGER accused of killing his mother and following up with a murderous shooting spree at his school has claimed that he was possessed by demons after becoming involved with a Satanic cult, Luke Woodham, 17, said through sobs that as he stood over his mother's bloodstained body, his head rang with a voice telling him to "kill, kill" or he would be "nothing".

brought a sensational twist to a anything if I didn't get to that trial that is the precursor of several school shooting cases that will come before United States courts this year. It also ap- shooting cases, is based a plea peared to confirm the worst that he is mentally ill and was fears of the many Americans not responsible for the killings, whose first impulse in these case. A medical expert testified that es is to suspect the influence of he suffered psychological probdevilish cults.

Rarely, however, are those spicions borne out by subsequent testimony. More often, investigators and reporters turn un the banal chronicle of a soria misfit, a history of seething. resentment that builds up into an explosioo of anger, or the aftermath of a broken romance.

In this case, though, Luke Woodham recounted a sequence of devil-worship and deadly scheming centred on his school in the small town of Pearl, Mississippi, that is calculated to rekindle the worst fears of American pareots. According to the police, the accused was involved with a group of teenagers led by 19-year-old Grant Boyette, who plotted to kill other pupils. Several alleged thembers of the group, along with Mr Boyette, are facing separate conspiracy charges.

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Harri

Closing arguments were heard yesterday in the first trial, at which Luke Woodham stands accused of killing his mother by stabbing her with a stricter gun control.

butcher's knife. He will be accused at a second trial of shooting to death two of his classmates, one of them his former girlfriend, and wounding seven others. He was 16 at the time of the killings, which took place last October. In court this week, Luke

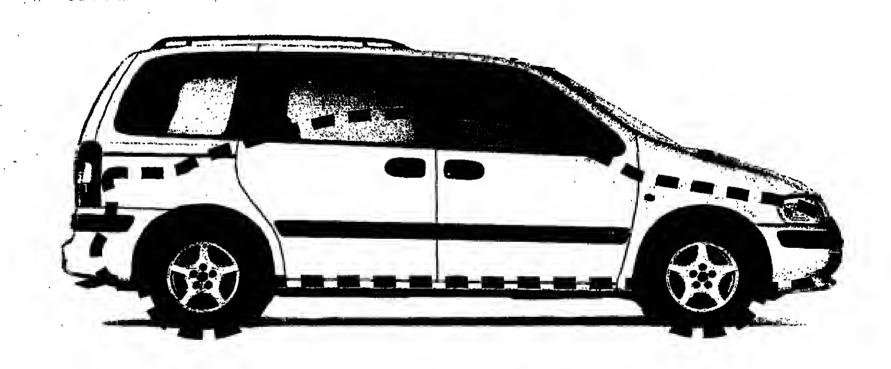
Woodham gave this version of what happeoed: "I remember I woke up that morning and I'd seen demons that I always saw when Grant told me to do something. They said I was Luke Woodham's claims nothing and I would never be school and kill those people."

Woodham's defence - in both the matricide and schoolnesses claimed that he was same at the time.

The Mississippi killings have attracted great attention across the United States as the first in what became a spate of school shootings.

Two months after the Pearl killings, a 14-year-old shot a group of pupils at his school in West Paducah, Kentucky, kiling three. In March, two boys aged 11 and 13, targeted school pupils in Jonesboro, Arkansas, with automatic gunfire as they trooped out of the building for a firealarm, killing five. April saw the death of a teacher, shot by a pupil while supervising a school dance, and two pupils were killed and 22 wounded last month in the state of Oregon after a 15-year-old went on a shooting spree in his school cafeteria. He is also charged with killing his pareots.

The outbreak of school shootings has given a new impetus to campaigners for How it looks. How it feels.



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# Modern plague ravages urban Eskimos

An Aids epidemic is threatening to wipe out the Inuit of Greenland, reports Katherine Butler

THEY congregate most mornings on the timber stairway by the Brugsen supermarket. First two, maybe three, then others appear from nowhere, clutching plastic carrier bags of bottled beer, to help them put in another day on the streets of Nuuk.

They look too young to be downand-outs. Women and men, some hardly 40, though their faces are already craggy and weather-beaten. But the same faces are there every day, huddled in an alcoholic haze to shield them from the Arctic winds. Sometimes they go down to Nuuk harbour for a change of scenery; the unluckier ones weave their way to to the new Aids treatment centre at the general hospital.

Everyone in Nuuk calls Queen Ingrid's the sanatorium, a relic of the days when tuberculosis was the big killer in Greenland. Today, the letters which instil fear in this polar outpost of the kingdom of Denmark are not TB, but HIV.

New findings hased on four years of research into the disease in Greenland are "alarming" according to Morten Winthereik, a Danish doctor at Oueen Ingrid's. He is now convinced the potential for a full-scale HIV epidemic is dramatic and is calling for urgent research into the strain of the virus seen in Greenland.

More than eighty cases have heen confirmed in the Inuit population, which numbers only 50,000. Many more are thought to have gone unrecorded as victims flee their small, enclosed community for the anonymity of Denmark.

The pattern of infection is worryingly different from that in Europe, where rates are stagnating or starting to fall. Dr Winthereik says: "If

Today the letters which instil fear are not 'TB' but 'HIV'

you look at the size of the populatioo and then the rate of increase here, these figures are alarming".

Dr Winthereik began studying the treods in 1994 when doctors in Sisimiut, 200 miles north of Nuuk. reported an explosion in oew cases. Io 1993, there were only two known cases of HIV in Greenland. The following year there were seven and in 1995, 14. Every year since has seen an increase in cases, concentrated mainly in Sisimiut and the capital.

Comparisons show that the spread, at 25 per 100 000, is three times faster than in Europe. The development of the virus into full-blown Aids is also faster in Greenland, sometimes as short as six months.

HTV's introduction into the Inuit population of Greenland dates from the late Eighties when man presumed to have been bisexual who had contracted the virus in Copenhageo - several thousand native Greenlanders live in Denmark - returned to Nuuk.

What marks out the infection in Greenland is that transmission is almost exclusively heterosexual. Women account for 45 per cent of the total known cases. This pattern and pace of spread makes the Greenland comparable to Africa as far as Aids is concerned, doctors say.

Unlike the typical HIV profile clsewhere in Europe, members of the known HTV community here exist on the lowest possible rung of the social ladder, heavily reliant on alcohol and bandouts from the Danish-financed welfare system. Many speak little or no Danish, which keeps them isolated socially and educationally.



The traditional way of life in Greenland, based on hunting and fishing, is a thing of the past. As a result, alcohol consumption is high (bottom right). A graveyard in the Photographs: Katherine Butler capital, Nuuk, bears witness to the Aids epidemic (centre). Below left, Dr Morten Winthereik







has probably not altered his behaviour. And he will not become dependent oo the medical system until he is in the chronic final stages of Aids. He laughs at the idea of sup-

about their feelings. This silence about HIV in Greenland is part of the problem says Morten Winthereik. "HIV is a very ugly affliction but we have got to start thinking about it like any other infectious disease." He wants to see research into wby it develops more rapidly here (in one case it took just six months from diagnosis to fullblown Aids) to establish whether it ily, stocking up at the supermarket is the same virus which is being cloned and whether there is any predisposition which makes Inuits more susceptible. "If we could identify it theo we would know if oew cases

port groups or counselling or even

Greenland: Inuit men do not talk

were the same." Annual alcohol intake, although

significantly down on the levels it rose to during the Eighties, is still high and Greenlanders themselves admit their tendency towards bedonistic and self-destructive behaviour.

"This is a cultural trait. We are telling members of his family in south guided by instaot gratification," admits Mikaela Engell, a senior health official at the home rule government.

Sexually-transmitted diseases such as chlamydia and gonorrhoea are common even among the young, and the abortion rate of one in every two pregnancies confirms the suspicioo of Gunnar Palisgaarde, Greenland's chief medical officer, that "nobody uses condoms".

Doctors here agree the spread of HIV is exclusively heterosexual in contrast to other Eskimo communities, for example in Canada where intravenous drug use is the main HIV transmissioo route.

"I have both mee and women dying of Aids in my department. This is heterosexual transmission," Dr Paliscaarde says.

Modernity in Nunk, the capital of a country which has no connecting roads because settlements are dotted around a glacier covering 85 per cent of the landmass, has brought hingo halls, video stores, a cinema - showing Titanic this week - mobile phones and higher living standards. But persistently high rates of murder, domestic violence, sex abuse alcoholism and suicide reflect the extent to which the Eskimo people are still coming to terms with the profound societal transformation they were forced to adopt in just one generation.

A controversial Danish experiment in the early 1960s closed may outlying villages and primitive sertlements and forced thousands of people into Nauk. Many ended up in "Blok P" a soulless high-rise housing development. Unable to cope with the psychological switch from a hunting, fishing, bartering existence to the cramped conditions of flat-dwelling and wage-earning shift work in the fish factories or social welfare, they turned to alcohol and other forms of escape.

Aqqaluk Lynge, a leading figure in the movement for Eskimo rights. sums up the loss of identity suffered by indigenous men in particular as "a human disaster". Long dark winters and short bursts of summer when the sun hardly goes down, were easier for indigenous people to cope with when they were hunting and fishing in harmony with the seasons.

This loss of a traditional rule for a deeply proud self-sufficient people is blamed for a suicide rate which has increased steadily to the point where a week does not pass without a hanging or a shooting. "The transformation of the society is too fast for some and not fast enough to meet the expectations of others," according to a polar epidemiologist, Peter Bjerregaard, who has carried out exhaustive research into the high mortality rates in Greenland

Although it sometimes goes handin-hand with heavy drinking, suicide is rarely associated with clinical de-

Sexual behaviour is described as 'high risk' in the capital

pression. "Young men hang or shoot themselves when they believe they no longer have a useful role. It is not a cry for help. In the old days people would go up into the moootains to die if they helieved they had. no role in the community," says Mikacla Engell.

Lung cancer and other heal? problems, meanwhile, are exacerbated by high tobacco consumption. Eighty per cent of the population smoke. Heart disease has increased with the encroachment of processed foods into the traditional whale and seal meat diet.

The Greenland administration. which won home rule from Denmark in 1979, has been tackling the problems with an impressively frank and open attitude.

Jonathan Motzfeldt, the Premier, himself went public some years ago to announce he was checking into a drying-out clinic and this is thought to have been a hig factor in helping others to mend their ways. People were deeply suspicious of Alcoholics Anonymous at first but it is slowly gaining a foothold and police chief Jorgen Meyer says there has been a steady fall in the violent crime rate as educational levels improve. "We have empty spaces in the prison," he says.

But dealing with HIV will require a cultural transformation which has not eveo begun. Health minister Marianne Jensen has ordered the setting-up of a telephone help line next month to offer counselling. Condoms are to be given out free and safe sex leaflets distributed. Nunk's overstretched doctors are hoping it

Medical care is free and the drug therapy available at Queen Ingrid's is now oo a par with that in Denmark, but doctors have experienced huge difficulties in tracking down potential HIV-positives because of the particular social group involved and

their "relaxed" sexual habits. "We are talking about a group

where to have multiple sexual partners is common," Morten Winthereik says, adding: "Partner notification and testing should be the higgest weapon in stalling the spread but it is not easy here." While the known cases are, by and

large, confined to the street drinkers, an identifiable group of unemployed homeless alcoholics aged between 40 and 50, the fear is that huge swathes of younger Greenlanders for whom casual sex is a way of life, could be wiped out as the disease spreads.

Sexual hehaviour in the capital is described by Dr Winthereik as "high risk". Saturday nights in Nuuk are

almost a tourist attraction, such is the intensity of the nightlife and the scale of alcohol consumption.

"Everyooe drinks, you can't go anywhere, so you party." says Inga Kasser, a young reporter at KNR, the local broadcaster.

But it is oot far from Nuuk's watering holes to the graveyard. The community buried its latest victim of Aids last week, Jakoh, a 35 year old man was infected in Copenhagen and came home to die. He was what those studying the disease in Greenland call an "import". He did not match the typical profile. For a start he was younger than most of those

infected here. By contrast, Piitar, who learned he was HIV-positive a few months ago, is 46, and some sufferers are even older. The oldest known case is a 59-year-old man.

Like most of Greenland's HIV positives, Piitar is unmarried but heterosexual. There is no gay commu-

uity in Greenland and most homosexuals go to live in Denmark anyway. He hangs around Nuuk with a group of drinking pals in which the virus is endemic. Piltar was only remotely acquainted with HIV when he showed up at the "Sana" (sanitorium) complaining of persistent symptoms of what he thought was flu. He was coughing, had lost weight and was showing eczema-like skin

eruptions. Testing for HIV is almost routine now in Nunk and the suspicions were quickly confirmed. But Pittar's initial sense of shock and shame have passed. He hardly seems to care. "I have many problems," he says. Alcohol is expensive but he drinks heavwhen he has money. He is weary of blood tests so does not always bother to show up for check-ups. Is he practising safe sex now? "Sometimes," he says.

Pitar's reactions are typical. He

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# No time to look back in anger



Photograph: Rui Xavier

badly - I feel like a swimmer doing his vabant best inside an upset stomacb - that; I can scarcely concentrate upon the book to be signed?" be says. I tell him I never sudden, a terrible noise rends the air-like in hand: 1968 - Marching in the Streets by that veteran street-fighting man, Tariq Ali. I'm on my way to a bruisingconfrontation with the man himself at the . Ted Heath's Memoirs is the thing to invest British Library, and I need to know whether in!" he's the same as he's always been. It would be convenient if he were. No extra

thinking would be required. Then, to my great relief, the train stops is if it's hit a wall, and someone halfsologises in a tiny, tinny, South London voice for the fact that the Waterloo spur is blocked for a while. An Evening Standard staches and stiffens opposite, but I'm happy enough because I can now out in a hit of quality reading time. This book is a month-by-month chronicle of that much re-cycled year, and I'm looking out for facts that I missed the first time around. It's the facts we go for with Ali, not so much the woeful descriptive flourisbes.

Here's one, for example: Brezhnev was "A cold, grey, lecherous creature... after being fellated by a female employee, he returned, sated, to his apartment." Was be really grey then? I'm wondering. I'd always thought it was the quality of Sheffield television sets in those years. Ducking in under the curious portcullis affair of the Library entrance, a man in a business suit spots my book and smiles at me as if we are already lasting friendship, "You've brought a copy of brown, corrugated paper. All of a

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120°

THE Northern Line train is lurching so In the Sixties Tariq Ali was the scourge of the Establishment, but he isn't finished yet. By Michael Glover

get books signed because I hate them being defaced.

I walk up the marble stairs, leaving him bit like a happy playroom in here - the shocking red banked seats; the comfortable, hysteria-blue carpeting; and that buge, circular, Titanically-ambitious porthole window through which I can see the London cloudscape happily swimming by.

In front of that window I spot an early arrival, the terribly severe looking elderly man in a wheelchair, black bag clasped to his knees as if thieves lurk in the most reputable of auditoria. From somewhere fairly far away, I can hear the sound of Jimi Hendrix fory-ladying away. A sensitive Sixnes' touch on the part of the organisers, but Jimi surely deserved a better sound

system than this. In the centre of the stage a copy of Tariq's book stands open on its own tiny velvet podium, an object fit for adoration whether read or not. Behind that podium, two proud, good quality leather armchairs square up to each other. To the right of the stage is the lectern from which he will give halfway down the difficult road to a truly of his all. It resembles a bolt-upright scroll

the grinding of teeth magnified about 100 "They do say that an unsigned copy of dark. The man in the wheelchair now sits

in the shadow of his sombre mood. ing now. He sounds infinitely patient when

dom and repentance," he begins. He rips times. The great porthole window has gone off his spectacles and squints up into the air. "I for one have never believed in repentance in any religious sense, not be-After a small altercation with his ing a believer myself... But what interests eration was inspired by the struggles of one shoulder bag, conducted entirely at floor lev- me more is how much batted there still to chartle at his absurd exclamation mark, el, Tariq makes it on to the stage. He looks exists for this decade. I was, for example, Uncle Sam. "The world is crying out to be charm, "I'm really touched you felt obligand then into the auditorium itself. It's a as handsome as ever - square-jawed, tooth-bit like a happy playroom in here - the brush moustachioed, and with that same page diatribe in Murdoch's Sunday Times. sex'n'drugs'n'rock'n'rull! Those strikes of of course, really upset that you wasted your pleasingly unruly mop of hair, though grey- Why is there such bile, such a lack of generosity? I shall tell you wby. Because be speaks of the legacy of the Sixties - as if there is a vacuum in that man's life, a lack

"They do say that with age comes wis-

The world is crying out to be re-made. It was not just a matter of sex'n'drugs'n'rock'n'roll. Those strikes of '72 and '74 shook the ruling classes to the core.'

so often that nothing can touch his fixed opin- is the legacy of our decade... ions now. He is beyond all that we might do to him because, well, he was there...

This is the man who was once demonised by the Daily Mail as a dangerous leftie, and even worse, a foreigner masquerading as

But when he speaks to us tonight he sounds like some suave, ageing, infinitely gentle, infinitely forgiving pedagogue.

he's been kicked around the lecture floor of hope, and hope is an active virtue. That

He looks out at us; at the wild-eyed man with the second-hand Harvey Niebols' carrier hag and the tie wrenched violently askew; at the stiff, solid-looking woman with the Times Literary Supplement scrolled on her knees like a truncheon; and even at the smattering of one or two who have managed to grow their hair long

albeit indirectly, for a little sympathy

Then he begins to harangue us a bit more intemperately - it was the only time in this century's history when a whole gensmall country against the evil might of '72 and '74 shook the ruling classes to the core!" he jahs out towards the blue velvet | brary..." curtain at the back of the stage as if suspecting some hidden presence.

"The Queen was genuinely worried that the miners would bring down the country, but Macmillan, the old magician, was much more prescient. 'Do not forget, Ma'am, that this is England, he told her, "and in England the pendulum moves very slowly to the left, and then very slowly to the right again'."

The audience listens respectfully, though mutedly, as if they are neither greatly pleased nor greatly displeased by his words. It only cost £4 after all.

He's sort of famous in bis way. All the more shocking then when question time comes, and, just as Tariy had predicted, the hile begins to gush in a quite spectacularty unexpected fashion. First off comes a furiously attacking speech, as viciously heartfelt as could ever be imagined, from evidently been honing his phrases since the

day before yesterday.

"I have never been sure whether you are ingenuous or disingenuous," he begins with casual mockery. "What I am convinced of is that this is the worst book I've ever read on such a subject, full of the most appalling historical mistakes, and I shall say so in my review!" Tariq. seated now, looks back at him forgivingly and, replies with an easy money on it. I hope you got it from the li-

"It was a review copy," sniffs his aniagonist, miffed that he has to make the same point twice over.

"May t ask which publication you are reviewing it for?"

"I'm not saying."

As we stream out of the lecture hall. I tap the reviewer on the shoulder and ask him the same question. I'm curious two. Who wouldn't be?

"The Times Higher Educational Supplement," he replies, rolling every word around his mouth.

It's a knock-out blow - as he guessed it would be. Hours later, the awfu! truth of it suddenly strikes me between the eyes. The THES belongs to Mr Murdoch's cray-a hirelings, does it not? Tariq's greatest a' d most bilious living enemics.

So there is a dirty establishm nt conspiracy against him then. Everything anat Tariq ever said was true.

#### ROBERT HANKS' WEEK IN RADIO

IT SEEMS like only yesterday that Colin Wilson was doing the chat-show circuit to publicise his last investigation into the paranormal - as I recall, it was to do with ancient Egyptians building the pyramids through collective mind-power - yet already he's back with a book about UFOs.

Wilson claims that there is overwhelming evidence that people are constantly being abducted by aliens though he does not think we should be alarmed: these are friendly aliens helping to "midwife" us into our next

stage of evolution. On Wednesday morning he was parting his case to John Humphrys on Today - not that the programme has in any sense gone downmarket, goodness me no - and in the evening he was more in his element, taking calls as James Whale's guest on Talk Radio. The most arresting contribution came from Marjorie, a psychic who had apparently turned down invitations to join the Government, and seen Satan descending to earth during a storm. Whale finally lost patience with her because, he said: "Every time you open your mouth a

cliche comes out." But what was interesting and even touching about this programme was the way callers were ready to be convinced by Wilson: their urge to believe in something extraordinary. The reason I mention this is that I have embarked on a grand intellectual

project: I am attempting to reconcile Radio 4 comedies with the reactions of studio audiences - to find some explanation of why they laugh. There has been a lot of material to work with this week, what with the return of Goodness Gracious Me and The Cheese Shop Presents... The Butter Factor, and the debut of The Alan Davies Show (Radio 4, Wednesday). Let's take Alan Davies. He has

grasped one of humour's fundamental rules: the word "poob" is not funny in itself - having it constantly repeated is. The first episode of this sitcom included several pleasant moments (an impression of an asthmatic dog and a headmaster's answerphone: "Speak up, don't mumble, after the tone"). But overall it was lazily predictable; one plot-line involved an art-dealer prepared to pay thousands of pounds for paintings by seven-year-olds; elsewhere, Alan's friend Murray won't get in the bath because the theme from Jans is on the radio - when he decides to take a shower, well, just have a wild stab at what movie theme starts playing.

Yet the audience go crazy. The only thing I can think is that it's the same as Colin Wilson: people need to believe that something extraordinary is going on. They watch Alan Davies and persuade themselves they're seeing a visitor from another star.

But it's just a mess of moonlight and marsh-gas.

#### DAVID LISTER'S ARTS DIARY

little bizarre. They say that in the third week "the weather is frequently not as pleasant." That is, not as pleasant as the rain of the first two weeks. Surely you bave to be the fringe of something. And audiences like to have the variety of seeing main festival and fringe productions in the same

But all credit to the Fringe office for a publication it issued this week on its 50-year history. Some of the memories contained in it cast an interesting light on figures who achieved fame at the Fringe.

Alistan Moffat administrator from 1976-81, recalls taking the Cambridge Footlights out for a meal in 1981 and a young Emma Thompson "leaning very earnestly forward to say 'Alistair, I know that we're a group and the Fringe is awfully democratic and all that, but how do I get some personal publicity!" The saddest story comes from

The Independent's own Miles Kington who in 1963 was in an Oxford Revue show with Terry Jones, They went on to write together for a year until Jones country's pre-pubescents over the told him: "I'm going to work with a bloke called Michael Palin." Kington laments: "Only a year out of Oxford and my career as a future Python was over already."

THE Edinburgh Festival Fringe's bring back its whiff of controversy is decision to start a week earlier than another Edinburgh councillor like the main Festival strikes me as a John Kidd who in 1968 denounced all actors as "hig Jessies" and rose to his feet in every production that offended him and sent for a policeman. They don't come like that any more.

> FRANCIS MAUDE'S elevation in the Shadow Cabinet from Culture spokesman to Shadow Chancellor was accompanied by a good deal of praise from commentators, noting that the shrewd and "streetwise" MP would keep Gordon Brown on his toes. I have to say I didn't notice much street wisdom from Mr Maude in his year shadowing Chris Smith. The attacks on Smith and Labour's policies came from sources as disparate as Sir Peter Hall and Jarvis Cocker, but virtually never from Francis Maude, Neither do I recall a single arts initiative from Mr Maude to compensate for his lack of opposition. Does anyone know where the Tories stand on museum admission charges, the Royal Opera House, the cut in Arts Council funding?

EQUITY has been as shaken as the departure of Geri Halliwell from the Spice Girls. Now the tribute bands bave to decide whether to become a foursome. The Geri lookalikes could face a period 'resting', though they What the Fringe really needs to could apply to replace the real thing.



# No fashion advice please, we're British

The Menswear Council says the average male should smarten up his image. But the average male already has, says Randeep Ramesh

That's the message British males have yet to heed, according to the self-appointed Menswear Council.

So far as this organisation is concerned, British men lose their sartorial sense after they have settled down; they do not dress to impress at work and rarely match their European peers, who spend on average £500 a month (double the British male) on clothing.

According to the voice of the council, Chris Scott-Gray: "We have all watched Blind Date. They stand up there with their Polynesian shirts outside their flat-fronted trousers. You know we have a problem when men are proud of the fact they had a baircut for £5."

When it comes to compiling the list of Great Fashioo Disasters, it is true that the British figure prominently. Recent tragedies include the twentysomethings who enthusiastically took up the tartan-trousered nerdishness of Chris Evans, another was the drain-piped Eighties chic of Burton and Top Man.

But times are changing. Take footballing fashion. For years, stars regularly scored own goals wheo it came to style. Many could happily forgel the pink silk frock-coat worn by Gazza at his wedding, or the nasty Kevin Keegan perm.

But this traditioo is not upheld by today's players. The Menswear Council's own list of the 10 bestdressed men in Britain features Arseoal star Iao Wright and Manchester United midfielder David Beckham. Last week the latter slung a £115 Gaultier silk sarong over his loose lineo trousers when strolling out with girlfriend Victoria Adams - aka Posh Spice. Some

CLOTHES do maketh the man. sniggered, but Beckham was unperturbed.

Increasingly, men consider style as important as substance. Ten years ago, the men's magazine markel consisted mainly of US editions of GO and Esquire - which struggled to sell more than 50,000 copies. Last year FHM, whose mix of near-naked women and stylishly attired men, shifted more than 500,000 units overtaking Cosmopolitan.

The profusion of men's media has been matched in the high street. The shopping arcades are stuffed with Paul Smith stores and lined with adverts for the American designer Tommy Hilfiger. Industry figures show that since 1992, the menswear industry has grown by nearly 30 per ceot, to £8bn.

But despite that growth, stylish men do not feel compelled to wan-der the streets dressed in the latest designer clothing.

Lawrence Dellaglio, England's bulky rugby captain, is typical. Dressed in lumberjack shirt and chinos, Dellaglio explains: "Most of the time I am in sporting gear, but when I go out I make an effort. But my wardrobe has got stuff from Marks & Spencer as well as Ralph Lauren. It is about looking good, not about spending lots of money."

When it comes to toiletries, British men are making more of an effort than before, with the average man spending £26 a year on aftershave, moisturiser and body sprays. Two years ago, Men's Health magazine claimed that three-quarters of meo were exercised about their physical shape...

This is oot to say that the Menswear Couocil's message is unimportant - it is just that for a lot

of men they have heard and acted upon it long ago.

Male couture has a long history albeit one marked by dodgy wigs, make-up and tights. That dandified parade of men's fashion which lingered in pre-industrial Britain had its roots in narcissism. For today's men, the main motivation to dress well lies in professional acceptance. The rationale seems to be that women's emancipation has made looking good in the office acceptable, so why should this not be extended to men?

The council parades such phrases as "dress like the manager who wants to be", but in reality the plethora of names like TM Lewin, Thomas Pink and Ozwald Boateng show that men will consider shelling out on a suit and shirt that looks as good on the catwalk as it does in the office.

Alan Hausen, who attended the launch of the council in a Daks dark grey suit, with lilac shirt and silver tie, spends "more oo clothes now than as a young lad". The former footballer, who now commentates on the sport said: "My wife still chooses them-mainly because I have got a 44-inch chest and long body which means a lot of jackets ride too high. But I have to do it. In my line of work, I have to look good."

This kind of talk from Hansen once one of Liverpool's self-styled hard men on the pitch - should not surprise anyone. The image-makers around Tony Blair fret about his crooked teeth, his receding hair and the cul of his clothes. It is not that the Prime Minister - who the Menswear Council also place in its top 10 - oeeds an entourage of courtiers to fawn over his presence, just that he recognises that the packaging is as important as the policy.



Alan Hansen and Lawrence Deliaglio mix designer and high street labels

Photograph: Rul Xavier

#### DO MEN MEASURE UP?

Ozwald Boateng, Savile Row tailor

"It's good to know that there will be a council specifically for men and I hope it will bring them into the limelight again.

"This council shows that they are starting to realise menswear is big in this country, especially suits that is undisputed, and it's about time someone got behind it. The main thing is how people are wearing their clothes, whether they are enjoying them. You don't need money to have style."

Hanni Huesch, UK correspondent for German TV station ARD Thank God, they are doing something to get British men to dress better. On average, I think German men are slightly better dressed than the British, but not when it comes to casual dothes. I think a lot depends on what people do as to how well dressed they are."

Chris Sullivan, style editor of mens magazine GQ "Any means of making British men dress better is welcome, but I don't know how much effect it will have as they are pretty recalci-

"What you wear affects" your success at work and with women. I do feel though, that more and more men are realising that it affects how seriously they are taken. Overall, education relies on experience, and men have got to go and find out what works."

Philip Warren, curator at archive of clothes from high street chain Next.

"In a way, the idea strikes me as a panic move. I think the attempt to create a Menswear Council shows that nobody in Britain has a real grip or handle on the market. But we've got a great fashion tradition in Britain, our designers are attractive to people from all over the world."

#### FREE TOMORROW IN THE



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# Girl Power goes out of fashion in Spiceworld

Geri's departure has failed to move the Spice Girls' fickle young fans. By Sophie Radice

THE day that Robbie Williams left Take That, teenage girls congregated outside a house in our street with blotchy, tearstreaked faces. A plump girl, who was obviously known locally as a major fan, stood on her doorstep sobbing, her room lit-up against the evening sky above her with smiling posters of the doomed boy-hand.

It was difficult not to smirk with adult cynicism when I asked them if they were all right, and words like "abandonment", "loneliness" and "hetrayal" tripped off their tongues as easily as in a Hollywood group therapy session. Later that evening, my sister reminded me of how we had cried in primary school when Les left the Bay City Rollers. Just as we knew then, these Take That girls understood that it effectively meant the end of their favourite group, and telephone helplines opened up to deal with the wave of teen-grief that swept the

Parents' hearts sunk in anticipation of a similar reaction to last week's announcement of Geri Halliwell's departure from the Spice Girls, and the question mark that must hang over the band's future, whatever the remaining members might say to the contrary.

My own three-and-a-halfyear-old daughter, whose bed-room was full of pictures of the fivesome, and who became the nation's youngest stalker when she found out that Scary Spice lived opposite her grandmother, gave an irritated reply when I



I don't really know the Spice Girls anymore, do I?" Thinking perhaps that she is too young to fully understand, and knowing that because she actually saw them a couple of times in real life she regarded

rather than pop icons, I turned to my seven-year-old son's female contemporaries. They have spent the last 18 months in a shiny, Lycra-clad Spiceworld. My son's friend Etta had a Spice Girls party only a couple of months ago, much to his disgust, (he and the only other hoy invited dug a huge hole

them as close personal friends

up as their favourite Spice. "We don't care if they split

in the lawn) at which girls dressed

told her about Geri - "Mummy, up. We like All Saints and Cleopatra now. The Spice Girls are not girls anyway. They should be called the Spice Women or the Spice Old Ladies," said Etta, contemptuously. At this, her friend Bella seemed embarrassed of her pink Spice Girls lunchbox and started swinging it around and

hitting the other girls with it. What about their potential, I asked. After all, surely they had so much more to give than two albums? And what about the economic implications of cancelling a world tour? And what were they going to do with their Spice Girl duvet covers and pillow cases now?

The girls looked at me blankly and one of them asked

politely if I can "stop talking about it now, please?". They started singing "Cleopatra, coming at yer" and I walked away muttering to myself about the fickleness of extreme youth.

Their love of the Spice girls was completely genuine and devoted while it lasted, but unlike the older girl fan-base of Take That, it was oot dominated by a freshly awakeoed hormonal longing and safely unrequited desire.

The simple message of "Girl Power" caught the mood of the classroom, where (as parents of boys are constantly reminded by worrying little leaflets saying things like "Has the lad culture destroyed your son's future?") hoys are struggling to keep up with ambitious, conscientious, confident girls. The Spice Girls were gloriously and fabulously tarty in their faux animal skins and platform trainers and will be remembered for being the brashest and brassiest of them

Seeing the Spice Girls a month or so ago on TFI Friday they didn't seem to have much to say, except the usual declarations of sisterly love and feelings of best friendship for each other. Now we know that to be a hit of a sham, it is difficult to see how they can possibly try and continue

The remaining Spice Girls should retire gracefully many millions richer, while the mothers of young daughters throughout the country take down their daughters' posters to make room for the new ones (maybe saving one for posterity so they can laugh about it together in few years' time), chuck last Christmas's Spice Girls dolls in the box under the bed, along with the Tellytubbies, Buzz Lightyears and Power Rangers that are brought out occasionally to play with Barbie, the enduring Queen of so many little girls' hearts.

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# Where are the female surgeons?

Nearly half of medical graduates are women, yet hardly any choose surgery as a career. Why is the operating theatre still a man's world? By Jack O'Sullivan

WHEN A woman is diagnosed with breast cancer, she is usually called mto a male consultant's office for a painful exposition of her chances of survival. Minutes later, she's back out in the world, bewildered, probably alone, feeling like a death sentence has been passed.

Briony Ackroyd's patients are inchier. "I like to visit them in the comfort of their homes. The news can be such a shock," she says. "It is time-consuming. Some people are outraged that I do it. But I think it is important. I don't know any ather surgeon who does it."

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That may be because about 95 per cent of breast surgeons are men. no doubt caring, but perhaps not as empathetic. Miss Ackroyd a consultant at Walsgrave hospital in Coventry is one of only about 20 women doing the job in Britain. "In most places in this country," she says, "a woman with breast cancer has no chance of seeing a female consultant, unless she is prepared to go out of area. One of my patients travelled from as far away as Bradford to see me."

These are extraordinary figures, given that for 15 years nearly half of medical graduates have been female. The situation is worst in surgery: just four per cent of consultants are women. But across all disciplines, less than one in five consultants is female.

So, why are they still finding it so hard to get to the top? After all, they succeed well in other parts of the medical profession: more than half of all new GPs are now female. If sexual discrimination really is still rife in hospital medicine, we should all he worried. The best surgeons are drawn from the largest pools. If they are mainly being recruited only from half of all graduates - the men - skill will suffer.

You can see why women are put off. Most people still think you need balls to slice someone open. Of fresh graduates naming surgery as their preferred hospital discipline, less than 20 per cent are women, compared with 75 per cent of those who aim to be gynaecologists. Long hours and the locker-room attitudes put them off.

"Surgery seems to attract a certain macho personality, although it is changing," says Dr Elisabeth do something not quite right you are Paice, post-graduate dean in the marked as unsound. Or you are re-North Thames region. "People still" imagine there are a few Sir Lancelot Spratt types.

"Certainly, it is true that some surgeons, who may be terribly effective, are not that sensitive to the human side. The sort of surgeon who will stand at the end of the bed and red times before and I'll be very quick.' Women look at surgery and see a whole lot of male role models and think, 'I'm not that sort of per-

choose surgery." Another female surgeon, of above average ability, who inexplicably missed out on becoming a

son'. They tend to be attracted to the

caring side of medicine, so they don't



Briony Ackroyd's own career struggle has inspired her, along with fellow pioneers, to establish a mentoring system for would-be female surgeons

Photograph: Richard Lea-Hair/NTI

consultant, hlames sexism. She says: "The view is that any woman who goes into surgery has got to be a tough cookie, a bit odd, and if you garded as too nice.

"One consultant said to me, it was good to have me on the team because I was so nice to the relatives. My role was to make the coffee." After one job interview, a male consultant surgeon suggested to her that she "wear a bit of make-up next time".

Recently, Dr Janey Huber, who did her clinical training at Addenhrooke's hospital in Camhridge. spoke about how she returned to work after having children but finally resigned her surgical post. The reason, she said, was that she felt so mis-

treated by male colleagues. But a few women do succeed, although there are many obstacles to

in 1995, Briony Ackroyd, 48, was the first woman to train successfully under a four-year flexible training scheme for senior registrars in

overcome. Appointed a consultant 72 hours a week. Full-time would have been over 100 hours. It meant that, in the end, it took me four years instead of the usual two years to complete my training."

general surgery. The deal had been She nearly did not get that far.

'Surgery seems to attract a certain macho personality. People still imagine that there are a few Sir Lancelot Spratt types'

available since 1979. Eleven women before her had tried and failed to

make it work. "I started in 1990 after my daughter was born. I was on what was called a part-time scheme, even

though it actually involved working

"In an earlier job, after two years, there was the usual review to consider whether to renew my contract. Everybody always got through, but I was told that my contract would not be renewed.

"They said they felt that be-

cause I was a woman and older than my fellow trainees, I would be unable to achieve a consultancy, so there was no point in finishing the training. I was devastated, pointing out that I had not changed my sex since they first appointed me two years before and I had aged at the expected rate. Eventually, after I confronted them, they changed their minds."

Like many female surgeons, Miss Ackroyd also had trouble with nursing staff. "Many want their surgeons to be male. A particular ward sister had never had a female registrar. She really took against me and started complaining about me. So there had to be an inquiry into my competence. I survived but, once again, it was un-

These days, the flexible training contract that Miss Ackroyd used is much more commonplace. Dr Paice, at north Thames has struggled hard with strong Government support to meet a 30 per cent annual expansion in demand for several years. But there is still debate, even among top female surgeons, about whether women can really be as good as men, if they take time out for example to have children.

This is an attitude Miss Ackroyd dismisses. "It's a myth. A man will go off and do a research job, perhaps of one or two years, and no one questions whether he can carry on heing a surgeon. Women go on maternity leave and they should not find it difficult to regain their skills.

"I could take an appendix out blind-folded because I have been taking them out for 20 years. You might need a week or so to brush up your skills, but men and women who have taken one or two years off should not have problems."

And by the way, Miss Ackroyd may have difficulties staying in a good mood but none keeping a steady hand during PMT.

Miss Ackroyd has finally made it but life is still hard. In the mornings, she has her "quality time" with her nine-year-old daughter, shared breakfast in bed, time when they practice the violin together for their Suzuki lesson and then the journey to school. After that, she might not be back home again until 10pm or 11pm. If her daughter wants to catch her in the evening, she will need to use the mobile phone. Her father, a businessman, is more likely to be at home.

Nevertheless, Miss Ackroyd is optimistic. The time it takes to become a consultant has halved in recent years. She, along with her fellow pioneers are planning to establish a mentoring system for would-be female surgeons. The future, she says, in spite of everything, is bright for women who want to wield the knife. Just don't expect it to be easy.

# Even the stalls cost a bomb...

You'll need deep pockets to afford most of the items on sale at the Olympia Fine Arts and Antiques Fair or you could just go window shopping. By Nicole Veash

"HAVE A glass of champagne," says Lennox Cato. "and mind where you put it." He's joking, of course, but then I wouldn't want to be the one spilling champers on his beautfful, Chinese-style, chony chest of drawers.

Lennox is an exhibitor at the Olympia Fine Art and Antiques Fair, a showcase of past treasures. On offer are beautiful walnut cabinets, old master paintings and plenty of curios. including a wild gothic chair with a frame made entirely of antiers. It's just like the Antiques Road Show, but everything is for sale - albeit at a price.

There was a time, in the Sixties, when people only wanted the new. Victorian relies, in particular, were slung on the skip or left to gather dust in artics. This has all changed. Antiques are seriously hig husiness, as Lennox, the only black dealer in Britain's top antique association, confirms.

"There is a lot of psychology involved in selling antiques," he says. "That's why we've got this champagne, to help people relax. You are talking about people spending a lot of money. thousands of pounds on a single item, so it's important to make them feel reassured, although you mustn't be overly familiar."

A perfectly groomed blonde fortysomething, Harvey Nichols bag in hand, admires a pair of red, lacquered, Victorian vases, price £4,000. Lennox darts off. "Here," he says passing her the prettified Japanese-style piece, "have a good look, but don't

The woman, quite rightly, declines to hold the delicate artefact, says she will think about it and walks off. "She can definitely afford it," says Lennox. "But as a private collector she'll want a really good think and have a good look round before she buys."

Huge amounts of money changes hand at this crème de la crème of antique fairs, but for window shoppers keen to glimpse another, more refined past world, the atmosphere remains relaxed.

London dealer Alasdair Brown, with 14-years trade experience, was quite happy for me to lie and gently bounce on an £8,500 four-poster bed, a fine example of the 19th-century arts and crafts movement, apparently. "It's rather comfortable isn't it," he says as I lie prostrate on top of the late 18th-century counterpane.

The most expensive thing Edric Van Vredenburgh has on his stall is a table made almost entirely from ivory, priced, because it's so rare, at £240,000.

Edric, who also has two tarnished mirrors on display, "hecause some people like them like that", describes his clients as "the international set with serious money. We don't get many Middle Eastern buyers because they tend to go for glitzy gilded pieces," he says.

The current apple of Edric's eye is a collection of 18th and 19th-century beetles preserved in 40 class boxes and making a startling if slightly disconcerting wall display, if you have £18,000 to spare. "I've been



Large and small objects of desire on sale at this very select antiques fair Photograph: Andrew Buurman

cleaning them all week by hand," he says.

"Most dealers tend to have a profit margin of between 40 and 50 per cent, although this varies depending on where you buy the piece in question," Edric explains.

With stalls costing around £10,000 a throw, or £300 a square metre, there is no question that a dealer's outgoings are high, although it is questionable whether private collectors really get a good run for their money. But then the serious huyers probably aren't

short of a boh or two. Will you excuse me a second," says Ednic leaving me to finger a pair of horn cups, "I'm just going to have a word with one of the wealthiest men in the

world." The wealthiest man and his beautifully manicured American wife, appear to have done business with Edric before. They greet each other like old friends and are soon in deep conversation about some walaut table or other.

The antiques world is slightly unreal. Few people would have room to display four lifesized, classical, 17th-century gods-Italian, very rare-or even want to part with £58,000 for a pair of serpentine commodes. But there is another side to

the market. Robert Pugh is a ruddy-faced Welshman specialising in a native farmhouse look. "No," he says, "most of our wares are not bought by the Welsh, they are not hig on the distressed farmhouse look."

Americans and Kensington dwellers who want an urban country cottage look are his main customers. And with 18th-century patchwork quilts from £300, this is the more affordable if less glamorous end of the antiques market.

Back to Lennox, who seems to have done a roaring morning's trade with the aid of his champagne. "The Brits still aren't really into serious antiques," he says. "They prefer to spend their money on holidays or new cars or little pieces, although we are doing our hardest to change

The Olympia Fine Arts and Antiques Fair is open until 14 June. For more information, call

#### Sierra Leone Arms Investigation

the Foreign Secretary has established an independent investigation into recent allegations of Government involvement in the supply of arms to Sierra Leone, and in

 what was known by Government officials (including military personnel) and Ministers about plans to supply to Sierra Leone after 8th October 1997.

whether any official encouragement or approval was given to such plans or such supply, and
 if so, on what anthority.

Anybody who can contribute information or observations to the investigation is invited to send details as soon as possible by

Sir Thomas Legg KCB QC 26 Old Queen Street London SW1H 9HP

or by fax to: 0171 222 3874 or by Email to:

SirThomas Legg@sicrraleonearmsinvestigation.btinternet.com from week beginning 8th June 1998

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#### Off-message on student loans

PERHAPS the worst aspect of the Government's handling of the student finance issue is its failure to get the message across: students will not have to pay back their debt unless and until they can afford to do so. This failure is strange in a government so obsessed with presentation. David Blunkett should have hammered home one simple point: graduates earn more. Two conclusions follow. One: why should non-graduates, who are generally poorer, pay through their taxes for graduates' education? And two: it is in everyone's interest to go to university if they have the ability - and this remains the case when they have to pay for it, especially if they are offered the no-lose proposition of a soft loan.

That is why next week's threatened revolt by Labour MPs against the Higher Education Bill is misguided and unjustified. The principle of the Government's reform is sound, but the case simply has not been made, either to MPs or to the general public. The rebels claim to be defending two linked ideals: equality and free education. As for equality, how can it be justified that £8bn a year of public money should be spent on a minority of the population which is overwhelmingly the richest and most privileged part? The invocation of the ideal of free education - bracketed by Tony Benn with a free health service - is a simple category error. Free education is egalitarian to the extent that it is universal: higher education by definition is not, it is élitist. The argument that access to university is theoretically open to everyone, on the hasis of ability, is precisely the bogus notion of equality of opportunity which, in other contexts, Mr Benn would deride.

That said, the Government's proposals are flawed and incoherent - but only because they depart from the foregoing principles. In order to reduce the cost of the proposals of the Dearing Committee, the Government made two changes. Dearing recommended that a flat-rate grant to cover living expenses should continue to he paid to all students, to be topped up with loans. The Government decided to abolish grants - half this year and the rest next - and put the whole hurden on to loans. That was sensible. But the Government also decided to require tuition fees to be paid up-front. with an exemption for students whose parents have low incomes, instead of also being loaded on to loans. Roughly one third will have to pay the full £1,000 a year; one third will pay less on a sliding scale; and one third will be exempt. This means students will continue to be means-tested on the basis of their parents' income, which is wrong in principle. At 18, people should not be forced to rely on parental support, which in some cases may not be forthcoming. Students should only be means-tested on the basis of their own future income, through the loan scheme.

The Labour rebels are missing the point, then, and comparisons with last year's rebellion over cuts in lone parent benefit are an insult to lone parents. But the Government should have had the courage of its convictions and ensured that the cost of expanding higher education is met by those who benefit from it - and not by the parents of those who might.

#### 'Conspiracies' and national icons

IT SEEMS that Diana, Princess of Wales is destined, sadly, to be as much the conspiracy theorists' princess as she was the people's. We should not be surprised about this. The conspiracy theories about the assassinations of John F Kennedy and Martin Luther King and the suicide of Marilyn Mouroe all show how persistent this kind of speculation can be when an iconic figure dies unexpectedly. As the interminable investigations into the accident that killed Diana roll on towards the first anniversary of her death, the conspiracy talk can he expected to intensify.

In the case of Diana there is one person who seems determined to stimulate the theorists' fertile imaginations. Mohamed Al Fayed has consistently raised questions about the circumstances of her death. His tenacity makes many observes feel queasy, for it appears to form just another stage in Mr Fayed's long battle with the establishment. Any weapon will do, it seems, even the death of his beloved son. But his theories would not get very far if they were not presented in a rather uncritical manner by parts of the media. The reasons for this, are not hard to find. "Putting Diana's face on the front" has always sold newspapers and magazines, even after her death. The claims and theories about her death, no matter how wild or fanciful, still attract readers and viewers. The grotesque documentary and studio discussion on ITV the other night will have attracted a respectable audience.

Those who defend these travesties argue that they satisfy a public demand. But do people really want the story of the life and death of Diana to be distorted by the ceaseless flow of speculation? There will, of course,



always be a fringe prepared to believe that Buckingham Palace or Tony Blair or, perhaps, aliens ordered her execution. But the vast majority of people have by now come to terms with the - accidental - circumstances of her death. They have entertained the theories about flashguns and carbon monoxide only to dismiss them. They know that Diana's driver had taken nearly three times the permitted level of alcohol. He was not qualified as a chauffeur and the car crashed at 90 to 100mph. It would have heen impossible for any would-be assassin to know the movements of Diana's party that night. Who could possibly have planned to ram the Mercedes at that time? With a Fiat Uno? The main imponderable about the Paris car crash is whether Diana would still be alive today if she had worn

It would be easy to dismiss the theories as just so much froth, journalistic junk food, pointless but harmless. But conspiracy theories are dangerous. They grow and grow until the gossip upon which they are built is passed off as truth. The shot from the grassy knoll that allegedly killed President Kennedy and the white Fiat Uno that supposedly hit Diana's car are already half-way to being accepted as facts. One has only to think of the Communist conspiracy that gave us the McCarthy era or the Nazis' so-called "international Jewish conspiracy" to know how they can

Conspiracy theories are sometimes dangerous, mostly pernicious and always morbid. They should be treated as such at all times.



Tranquil battlefield: the Lakeland landscape is a magnet for second-home owners. See letters below right

#### Fawning MPs

Sir. Three cheers for Andrew Mackinley and his criticism of the whips' "pervasive control" of Labour

I have long wondered what possible use was served by those braying voices of Conservative Members of Parliament who used to compete to ask the most fatuous question of the day. I remember reading a copy of Hansard from the Second World War. Members were then asking real questions about real people and matters of public concern. And they received answers.

Michael Brown has explained in your paper how the present practice arose. Tony Blair was elected in the belief that he would change old and bad practices. As it is, I am reminded of the last chapter of Orwell's Animal Farm, when the animals watching outside could no longer differentiate between the visiting bumans and the pigs. ALAN FORGAN Guildford, Surrey

Sir: Am I the only person not surprised by the Government's mepledges? As Charles Dickens wrote in Little Dorrit: "It is true that every new premier and every new goverument, coming in because they had upheld a certain thing as necessary to be done, were no sooner come in than they applied their utmost faculties to discovering how not to do

ANNE LEWIS London SW15

#### Pharmaceutical threat

Sir: I see that the pharmaceutical industry is - yet again - threatening to pull out of Britain if the Government requires it to publish more information ("Ministers launch war on drug prices", 3 June).

The industry has a long tradition of over-reacting to modest proposals. In 1993, a new public right of access to information about drug safety was proposed in a private member's Bill: disclosure, of such information by the licensing authority was (and still is) a criminal offence. The British Pharma Group, a trade body representing the leading research companies, warned that unless one particular provision was removed. their members would no longer seek to launch their products in the UK "but apply to other EC licensing authorities instead". In an effort to address their concerns, the Bill's sponsor. Giles Radice MP, withdrew the clause. To everyone's astonishment the British Pharma Group responded in even more hysterical terms, warning that the revised Bill would "wreak real and lasting damage to the industry" and mean that "companies would probably simply cease to use" the UK licensing system. It appeared that, whatever the proposal, the industry had

only one response. Now ministers propose to ask for more information about the cost-effectiveness of NHS drugs. You quote an industry spokesman's reaction: "Many companies might be looking at whether their research is correctly based in this country." I hope ministers will recognise that going over the top is the pharmaceutical industry's routine response to change. MAURICE FRANKEL

Director The Campaign for Freedom of Information London EC1

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post letters to Letters to the Editor and include a daytime telephone number Fax 0171 293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

#### Lottery victims

Sir. Your leading article "National Lottery fever needs to be calmed" (3 June) is to be welcomed. Gamhling, by its very nature, encourages those who take part to exaggerate the likelihood of winning at the expense of the probability of losing. The promoters encourage such notions and the media collude by publicising the few winners. The result is the chasing of losses by punters.

It is for these reasons that the public policy of providing gambling on the basis of unstimulated demand was so effective. When it was still being implemented, there were more gambling facilities in Britain than any other European country and they Department of Anthropology were more diverse. Yet the casualties were relatively few.

The irresponsible approach of the thodical reneging on its election last government, which treated gam bling as just another marketable commodity, undermined this policy. In the present climate of stimulation. the idea that education will prevent excessive gambling is unrealistic. Indeed, such notions now largely stem from the promoters, in a cynical attempt to present a semblance of social responsibility. DI E MORAN

Consultant Psychiatrist Chairman, the National Council on Gambling London NI4

#### Lessons for Indonesia

Sir. Like Paul Barber (letter, 2 June) I am appalled by the abuses of human rights perpetrated by the Indonesian armed forces. And like D F Hagger (letter, 2 June) I deplore the way in which army personnel are dikaryakan, the Indonesian term for the placing of military men in bureaucratic positions - a process, incidentally, begun under Sukarno in the 1950s and not initiated by Suharto.

Both correspondents, however, fail to engage with the arguments of those with considerable experience of Indonesia who recognise that within the armed forces there is good as well as bad, and that every attempt should be made through teaching fora, such as the Centre for Security Studies at Hull University, to expose Indonesian officers to a tradition of open debate. By doing

this one hopes to give encouragement to those who are men of principle and who are trying to persuade their colleagues round to understanding and working for democratic freedoms.

The point is very similar to that made in relation to the Northern Ireland peace negotiations. While the extremist actions in the past of those who were represented in the negotiations were regarded by most of us with abhorrence it was generally accepted that there needed to be some move towards dialogue. It was only those like the Rev Ian Paisley who refused to sit down with those whom he regarded as murderers. Dr CW WATSON

Eliot College University of Kent at Canterbury



J M Synge, Irish playwright

#### The real Synge

Sir: John Walsh's article "The craggy home of the playboy of the western world" (28 May) was accompanied by a picture purporting to be of John Millington Synge. In fact this picture was taken of an islander by John Millington Synge. RICHARD SYNGE

#### Case for Kenya

Sir: The picture and caption with Mary Braid's article "Moi stirs up Kenya's tribal strife" (30 May) are misleading in claiming that 19 people were killed in ethnic violence in Sipili on 29 May. No such violence and deaths took place on that day. President Mni had foreseen that

multiparty democracy may divide Kenyans along ethnic lines and in exercising his freedom of expression warned Kenyans about it. This unfortunately has turned out to be the case. He however accepted the eventuality and won two elections under it. Blaming him for warning Kenyans of the possible negative effects of a multiparty system shows a failure to appreciate the contextual differences in the application and result of the system.

It appears Mary Braid has been paying too much attention to some ethnic as opposed to broadly based non-governmental organisations, otherwise she would have obtained the views of other communities involved and also known of the current police/army operation to disarm the Pokots and Marakwets. Throughout his vice-presidency and presidency, of all Kenyan communities and faulting him on this is unfair and only serves selfish ends. MWANYENGELA NGALI High Commissioner Kenya High Commission

#### Secular babies

London W1

Sir. There is nothing new or strange about non-religious naming ceremonies for children (Comment, 26 May, letter, I June). The Baby Naming Society, formed in 1994, is following work done for some time by the British Humanist Association; the BHA published Jane Wynne Willson's booklet, New Arrivals, in 1991, and the nationwide Humanist Ceremonies Network provides naming ceremonies as well as non-religious weddings and funerals.

Moreover, the BHA has been following work done for a long time by the freethought movement; the Ethical Church produced a ceremony for the "Recognition and Dedication of Children" in 1913, and the National Secular Society produced a cere- JS DOYLE mony for the "Naming of Infants" as long ago as 1868. Anyway, millions of ordinary people have been conducting their own private ceremonies for centuries. NICOLAS WALTER Rationalist Press Association

London N1

#### of the county, indeed the world, and sometimes betray contempt for the

people who want to continue to live in their own communities. Typical was this gem: "My house is empty for most of the year. The type of person who wants to live in such [affordable] housing would be likely to vandalise or hurgle my property." The attempt to make second-

Countryside in peril

Sir. Some, like Henry Harington (let-

ter, 30 May), may have reasons for

keeping a second home which they

visit from time to time, but in his ob-

jections to taxing of second homes

he misses the point: first homes must

To accuse South Lakeland District Council of Nimbyism is also wide of

the mark - we have gone to great

lengths (and expense) to overcome the

Nimbys in order to provide affordable

housing for local people. As council-

lors here can tell you the problem is

not so much residents' opposing plan-

ning permission. It is the people with

second nomes who are quick to ob-

ject to affordable housing for locals.

Their letters come from all parts.

take priority over second homes.

home owners pay for the harm they Moi has been consistent in calling for do is not a case of Nimbvism but it the unity and peaceful co-existence should mean that there are fewer Ni-g :: mobys (not in my other back yard). STAN COLLINS

Chair, Finance and General Purposes, South Lakeland District Council Kendal, Cumbria

Sir: The leading article of 1 June ("Make second-home owners pay up") denigrated rural people by implying they should adopt a modernday servitude and embrace low-paid service jobs, pandering to the needs of wealthy incomers.

Yes, people have the right to live and work where they choose, but foreing hardworking local people out of the towns and villages they grew up in to make way for absentee owners; has torn the soul out of communities the length and breadth of Britain.

If we continue to pursue the "let: them pay" principle then rural Britain will stagnate - a place where the elderly come to die and the wealthy urban elite unwind at weekends. The alternative is to create a vibrant countryside where the young feel they. not only have a future but are welcome in their own communities. Sherborne, Dorset

#### Close calls

Sir: I once worked in a call-centre (report, 2 June; letter, 4 June), receiving calls on hehalf of a huilding society's conversion to a plc. Despite lacking a financial background, callhandlers were expected to respond to complex share inquiries, often taking up to fifty calls in half an hour. They had just three days' training to learn scripts, the carefully provided answers mainly resulting in further confusion for the customer. You were persistently monitored and disciplined for deviation from the script. SARAH ADAMCZUK

#### It worked!

Sir: I write in support of Nicholas Pole (letter, 5 June). Having been sceptical about alternative medicine, I decided to take a course of Shiatsu for a cold. In just seven days, my cold was completely cured. Nor-2: mally it hangs around for a week. TONY NEWPORT Shipton-under-Wychwood, Oxfordshire

QUOTE UNQUOTE

You do not need to he a colourful character to be a politician. That way you endup with huffoons. You need serious thinkers" - Stephen Dorrell, who has quit the Shadow Cabinet to become a one-man

"I think I have peaked too early. Everyone will be sick of me by the time it comes to vote" - Ken Livingstone, Labour MP, on his chances of becoming Mayor of London.

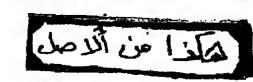
"Soundbite and slogan, strapline and headline: at every turn we meet hyperbole. The soaring inflation of the English language is more urgently in need of control than the economie variety" - Trevor Nunn, nrtistic director of the National Theatre.

"Maybe some people find I have been impatient with them, but I won't accept that as arrogance. I know who I am myself. After all, I spend a lot of time with myself" - Robin Cook, Foreign Secretary.

"Some modern things are terrible. I can't imagine people wasting money on them. But other people's tastes are different and what I think looks rather like a borrid hig spider crawling around might in fact be a work of genius in a couple of centuries" -Baroness Thatcher on nrt.

"Politicians are always corrupt: that's the one true constant. I know that one day I want to get involved in politics" - Brenda Schad, Wonderbro model.

"I would come to the conclusion, no, I wouldn't wear one. I think it could be a bit draughty" - Denis Law, former Scotland and Manchester United striker, when asked if he, like the England and Manchester United midfield player David Beckham, would ever wear n sarong.



We need bad b sport, it's the w

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#### We need bad behaviour in sport, it's the way to win



#### HOWARD JACOBSON

LIFE is competition - wasn't that what Darwin wanted us to face. What he didn't say was that life was a competition for gentlefolk. Natural selection doesn't take account of manners. You win, and that's that.

I was head over heels in love, when I was seven, with a lovely golden-plaited girl called Josephine. 'Ah!' I remember our parents crooning when they saw us skipping along to school together, our innocent little fingers intertwined like sleeping baby octopuses, "Just look at them, they're in-

It was true. We were never apart. I'd have done anything for Josephine. If she'd asked for the rubber from my cataputt I'd have given at her and asked nn questions. Ditto my veteran pickled conker. Ditto the chewinggum I kept in a milk tooth cavity. But when her fireworks performed better than mine on Guy Fawkes Night I lifted up a spade and split her head open with it. It wasn't personal. Life is competition and she was winning. I had no choice in the matter. My genes sniffed extinction and massed in my defence.

There is, of course, no excuse, genetic or otherwise, for splitting people's heads open. Human society cannot function on the winat-all-costs principle. Which is wby we have invented sport. Sport ritualises the impulse. With sport we can win vicariously. We numinate someone else to split heads open

You can see where my argument is tending. If sport is proxy blood letting - the means whereby we can obey our primary instinct to prevail while adhering to the artificial forms of civilised behaviour - then where's the sense in trying to civilise it? You want good manners? Go to Church.

We watch sport in the hope that we may see someone die, or failing that, humiliated. We give up our weekends to witness rage, violence, unreason, the hand of God; to be a part of the unrelenting hysteria of species survival, but at a safe distance. And we love those whom we elect to do the dirty for us in production as they do not conform to those patterns of restraint by which we live the rest of the time.

This is why we do not give our hearts to sports puritans like Sebastian Coe, in whom we could always see the prune-mouthed Tory politician, or those bulimic white-face women marathon runners who always look Kick another player on the field, which is as though they're running for the Church of Scotland and finish second. Think of Lineker - a national hero, almost, and so conscious to this day that be was compromised by niceness - oh God, niceness! - that he has to guzzle potato crisps on television to show

that there's a voluptuary underneath. Rowers are hard to care about because of that spirit of wholesomeness and regimen

they exude. Archers, similarly. Clay pigeon shooters pass us by hecause we cannot discern by what practice they may be guilty of malfeasance. Be thankful for drugs. Now that we can be reasonably certain that the midget weightlifter sobbing to his pational anthem on the winner's podium was flat on his back gargling a steroid Pimms the night before, the Olympics stand a chance of becoming interesting to us again. Transgression, that's the true Olympic ideal. Winning by whatever means. Preferably foul.

All sportspersons should be on drugs. Make it obligatory and level the field. I'd go so far as to suggest that we'dget something out of it if we actually saw them swallowing or shooting up as part of the warm-up, maybe as part of the competition proper even. Skaters get marked nn artistic impression as well as on performance, why not points for gracefulness of spliff-rolling?

It's not the performance enhancement I care about. Forget performance. Whatever enhances ill-temper is what we should encourage. Some sportsmen don't need it. McEnroe got there by sheer superabundance of natural bile.

Australian cricketers only have to smell an Englishman and their phenomenal aggression content immediately quadruples. But not everyone's so lucky. Some have to work at it. Gazza needed to clobber his wife intermittently. Sheringham, if we are to believe what we've been told, has to go clubbing into the early hours in Portugal. So what's all this about him shaming his country? He's dong it for us, isn't be? So that we don't have to.

There is nothing to be said for the new gentrification of football. Fine, you can now watch the game in comfort in a designer stadium in Bolton. Everyone can sit down. Everyone can see. Everyone can find a toilet. And you can take your kids. But tell me who you turn to when the firework rage is on you and there's a little shovel in your hands? Where has it gone to, all that football violence? Suddenly vanished, like vapour, into the stratosphere? No wonder there's a hole in the ozone layer.

No less than a snooker table or a tennis court, a football pitch is a killing field. Not quite a Roman Coliseum - we have refined the ritual somewhere since then - but fulfilling the same function: the aestheticization of the will to murder. And there is no satisfactory aesthetics of murder that doesn't take full account of those slinkily murderous inducements, alcohol and sex. It is therefore entirely necessary that our footballers get plenty of both.

That doesn't mean, however, that I can wholly condone, if it is true, Sheringham's half-hour in a lavatory in Portugal with a blonde. Is that any way to treat a woman. Half an hour! In my day half an hour wouldn't have got you to the foreplay prior to the foreplay.

But there you are, we live in soft times.

precisely what you're meant to do, and you get a red card. Meet a woman in a bar in Portugal and it doesn't ever occur to you that she might appreciate a whole night in the

> Howard Jacobson's new novel 'No More Mister Nice Guy' is published by Jonathan Cape.

# They thought the L-word was dead and buried, but it's back



**ANDREW MARSHALL** 

"Liberals are variously described as limousine, double domed, screaming, knee jerk, professional, bleeding heart; see also pinko: parlour pink; new left; committed; egghead." Safire's Political Dictionary, by William

WILLIAM SAFIRE is not as you might have gathered, a liberal. His columns in The New York Times make no bones about it. But the entry for liberalism in his political dictionary tells us about more than Mr Safire's personal political credentials: for more than two decades, liberalism has been a dirty word in America.

The creed has been without effective leadership, policies nr politicians. The great ship of American liberalism drifted, apparently rudderless. Now, a few gusts of wind are starting to stir its sails, but there remains grave doubt over who can, or will, take the wheel,

The last great iconic figure for the American centre left was Bohby Kennedy, who was gunned down 30 years ago this week. Bobby wouldn't always have taken kindly to being described as a liberal, but if you want a date and a time for the death of the American liberal tradition, then June 5, 1968, is as good as any. After the murder of his

brother five years earlier. Bobby had collapsed into himself, reassessing, rethinking, trying to find a new way of carrying out politics in an age of increasing violence, clashes that pitched young and old, black and white, rich and poor against each other on the streets and in the minds of the American voter. Any chance that he might have had was extinguished by Sirhan Sirhan. The next three decades were to be dominated by conservatism, not liberalism, with Republicans in the White House for 20 years out of 30.

You have to be very careful with these words, of course. In America, they don't mean what they mean in the rest of the

Robert Kennedy funeral, thirty years ago, marked the demise of liberalism's last, best hope Republicans rode in three sucmore akin to what we call social democracy. Liberalism -House. the idea of individualism, reducing the role of the state, and relying on the market - is by and large the middle ground for both political parties in the

Liberalism was redefined for America by the New Deal, an attempt to save capitalism. not to destroy it, by raising the profile of government. The centre-left seized the intellectual high ground in the 1940s and rarely lost it after that. It did it in the name of liberalism - not socialism or social democracy - hut a statist liberalism that had more in common with the New Liberalism of 1890s Britain than Gladstone or John Stuart Mill. Government was to save the nation - through redistribution, welfare programmes and governmentmandated desegregation. .

US, but they just don't call it

By the time of Bobby's death, the consensus behind this was already disintegrating. Race riots, the disaster in Vietnam, the catastrophic 1968 Chicago Democratic convention, inflation and recession sealed its fate. In 1978 - ten years, almost to the day, after Bobby's death - California turned the country on to a

new course with Proposition 13. This hallot initiative, which limited property tax, acted as a catalyst for a revolt against tax and government that the cessive terms in the White

The high ground was seized by the right. Sensing the popular mood - against government, in favour of tax cuts. socially conservative, thirsty for national aggrandisement after Vietnam - and leading it, they have frequently seemed all but invincible.

For much of the last 30 years, liberalism may not have been dead, but it sure smelled funny. The main output of liberal intellectuals has been a series of somewhat disjointed thoughts that go under the general rubric of "rethinking liberalism". This book stack gets larger as the years roll on; but liberals seem so concerned with rethinking that they don't have as much time as they should for thinking, let alone for There are plenty of grou-

puscules, magazines, agitators and educators, but precious few organisers. There are liberal politicians, but few have made much impact nationally. In the Democratic Party, there ias been a reali right, around more centrist party leaders, often indistinguishable from their Republican opposites. Most would rather slit their throats than be regarded as liberals.

But there is a whiff of change in the air. After three decades of conservativism, a space is opening up on the left

for something new, which might just be liberalism, E J Dionne, the Washington Post columnist. prefers to call it Progressivism. referring back to an early age nf radical social change.

Part of the reason for a new interest in the left is undoubtedly the terrible mess that is starting to emerge on the right. Newt Gingrich espouses technological revolution, while the religious right is intent on moral counter-revolution. His libertarian conservatism and their moral authoritarianism are tugging the party in divergent directions, and the cracks are becoming wide.

Gingrich is undoubtedly right to focus on technological change, but the right seems unable to get to grips with the broader concerns that this creates, along with economic opportunity. There is a slow shift within the middle class, or the Anxious Middle Class, as Dionne calls it in his book They Only Look Dead:

They are "wary of the economic change now under way, but sceptical of efforts to turn the process back. They are disthat have come from government so far, but are worried about their prospects in an economic order in which goveroment withdraws and removes basic social protections. They are, potentially, the core constituency of a New

Progressivism."

revival of Progressivism, there are pitifully few around whn seem ready to seize the challenge. Bill Clinton has placed himself solidly at the right of the party, displaying little ambition or ideological fervour, and it is tough even to write the sentence "Al Gore could be the new Bobby Kennedy," let alone believe it.

During its long years in the background, liberalism has become the politics that dare not speak its name. The demonisation of the L-word has helped to make liberal politicians shrink from the light, leaving moral dwarves and grandstanding hig-talkers to take te

Bobby Kennedy "did not know the answers. But more than other politicians of the day. he knew the questions," wrote Arthur Schlesinger in his biography. His tavourite song - "one heard it so often blaring from some unseen source in his New York apartment" was "The Impossible Dream".

"When you have chosen your part." Kennedy underlined in his copy of Emerson's essays, "abide by it and do not weakly try to reconcile yourself with the world... Adhere to your own act, and congratulate yourself if you have done something strange and extravagant. and broken the monotony of a decorous age." There are few with that courage, or imagination, in the flat and empty If the time seems ripe for a politics of America in 1998.

# Why this millennium logo is just plain wrong



**TREVOR** PHILLIPS



IF YOU were choosing a symbol of the millennium,

what would you look for? A piece of art that would live for another millennium? The best work of the most np to date designers and sculptors? An imposing monument?

These, it appears are the qualities sought by the creators of the Millennium Doll, a (literally) statuesque female figure whom I suppose we'll eventually come to call Millennia, who will be the symbol for the nation's celebrations in the year 2000.

We won't ever learn to love her though. When it comes to being hard and forbidding, next to Millennia, Lady Thatcher looks like a Tellytubby. Actually, the principal quality that a popular millennium logo needs is that it should fit on Prince William's baseball cap.

However, who cares? I do. for rather personal reasons, which I will share with you, as

I need advice. If you have friends who are artists or television producers or writers, you live in a constant state of dread. What if idea. you don't like their next production? The better they know you, the harder it is they can tell when you're

I cursed the day that the video recorder became a common household item. No longer could I pretend that I hadn't seen programmes that would only encourage people to send you a tape, and then you'd have no choice but to tell the truth.

tions of pictures and newlypublished books.

Normally, this doesn't matthat they are right and that you are wrong; and since it's usually hard to get a word in edgeways, the problem doesn't arise. However, even the most emollient of commentators - that's me. folks - finally meets Nemesis.

In my case it is Millennia. I need not belabour my political connections, which are well-known, or recount my epiphany on the way to Greenwich. The Dome will succeed, whatever it is for, and whatever is in it because it is

so damned big. . In fact, the most brilliant solution might be to scrap all the plans and simply let people revel in the massive volume of space under the canopy. It'd be cheaper and in today's close-packed city, it would probably be a unique experience for most urban kids which means most British chil-

I don't suppose anybody will take me up on this nove!

Anyway, as you can tell, this is all prevarication; the real subject that people are talking about across the land is the new symbol for the millennia friend of mine and designed by the man who did the titles for several of my early programmes, it would be much easier to say "I have it darimes". Sadly I don't.

I don't hate it, though. I don't really have any (Windsor, Hague, Clinton).

The same goes for exhibi- feelings at all about it. It is rather difficult to get worked year's activities had their wits up about this rather modemist, seriess, muscular figure. ter with politicians. They know And her severity of posture suggests that if you did get too worked up you'd be well in line for a good smack in the mouth. This woman isn't going to take any nonsense from a bloke like me. I'd like to emhrace the millennium; but I don't think that Millennia would take too kindly to being hugged by a stranger.

What is the point of a millennium logo anyway? Presumably this is part of the are the most likely sources of modern art of "hranding", inspiration?

McDonald's golden arches. or Disney's Mouse, or the Nike tick. These are the examples of great contemporary design; and what is most surprising is that Martin Lambie-Nairn, who came up with Channel Four's hrilliant multicoloured "4", should have gone along with this. It may not be too late to change the thing. If so, where

us the infectious simplicity of

We could take a leaf out of the England team's book and use a pack of fags, a kebab and a bottle of tequila to symbolise our culture

which is the practice of making things that are not partic- the right approach. A Spice ularly connected seem as Girl's boot might say somethough they belong to each other by putting a striking symbol on both of them.

Millennia's job, I suppose is to connect all the diverse activities that will claim to celchrate the year 2000; but um. As it has been chosen by surely, if so, one of the key qualifications of such a symshould be able to copy it easily. It should, as I pointed out,

Perhaps the female motif is thing important about late twentieth century values; or since we are a nation obsessed by the the bosom, an upside-down "M" might give us something simple to hold on

If that doesn't attract, football is our national game; we hol is that anyone, anywhere could take a leaf out of the England team's book and use a pack of fags, a kebab and a also fit easily on to T-shirts and bottle of tequila to symbolise the basehall caps worn our culture. This would have customarily by any old William the added virtue of emphasising our cosmopoli- lately?

If the organisers of the tanism as a nation.

Or we could just fall back about them they would have on the outline of an instantly recognisable ancient monugone to the people who gave ment, though I think that Barbara Cartland might feel a little aggrieved if her silhouette were not projected in

> However, not for the first time, the French may have something to teach us.

For the bicentennial celebration of the French Revolution they struck new coins with the profile of Liberty on the reverse. As their model, they chose the most striking face they had, that of Catherine Deneuve, whose strong, classic features have come to represent the best of French womanhood.

Should we not he thinking along the same lines? We could be completely genderfree in our choice, and select the profile by referendum (why not? we do everything else this way these days) but then we'd end up with Richard Branson, who wins every popularity poll going.

So the choice must be left to the women. There are many whose profiles might exactly personify our nation at its most characteristic to become our New Millennia.

Think Tiffany from East-Enders, or Dot Cotton, with that emblematic fag hanging from the lower lip. Think of the sophistication of Naomi, the elegance of Joanna Lumley, the power of Anne Wid-

Or maybe, just maybe .. has anyone seen Ginger Spice

# Afghan earthquake

Help the survivors to stay alive

OXFAM needs your donation today to save lives in Afghanistan. No-one can help the men, women, and children who were buried in their homes. But the survivors

are homeless, frightened, and vulnerable. They need clean water quickly to avoid the terrible threat of cholera. They need blankets

and shelter urgently to protect them from the

bitter nights. Oxfam's first consignment of water tanks, plastic sheeting and blankets is already on its way to the disaster zone, and the survivors need more

With your help, Oxfam can provide them. Please, make a donation to Oxfam today

Yes, I want to help. Here is my gift of:

Please send to: Oxfam, Room BB02, FREEPOST, Oxford 0X2 7BR

£25 🗆 £50 🗆 £100 🗆 £250 🗀 £

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# Tommy McCook

MUSICAL trends and fashions go round in circles and classic a buge admirer of Charlie Parksounds are never far away from the mainstream charts. Tommy McCook, the Jamaican tenor saxophone player, was one of on radio jingles and land a luthe founder members of the crative gig at the Zanzibar club Skatalites. With Laurel Aitken, in Nassau, in the Bahamas. Prince Buster and Byron Lee and the Dragonaires, the band created a style that has influenced generations of musicians on both sides of the Atlantic.

Though the original line-up of the Skatalites harely lasted a year, the seeds planted by the joyous fanfare of "Guns of Navarone", their only British Top 40 entry, as well as their work on early recordings by Bob Marley & the Wailers, Jimmy Cliff and Toots & the Maytals eventually grew into a worldwide phenomenon.

Fifteen years later, the Skatalites' seminal tracks sparked off the 2-Tone sound of the Specials, Madness, the Beat and the Selecter as well as the more populist approach of UB40 and Simply Red. Subsequently, some of these British bands inspired American acts like the Untouchables, Raucid, No Doubt and the Mighty Mighty Bosstones, who recently scored a major hit with the infectious "The Impression That I Get".

With the future Skatalites Don Drummond (trombone). Johnny "Dizzy" Moore (trumpet) and Lester "Ska" Sterling (alto saxophone), Tommy Mc-Cook was a product of the Alpha School, an establishment run by Catholic nuns in Kingston. This local equivalent of a reform school had its own Alpha Boys Band, who accompanied functions and funeral processions, McCook would later recall "playing tenor right away. It was the teacher's sax. It came about because his time was up. I was given the school sax to use as my first."

By the mid-Fifties, McCook, er. John Coltranc. Sonny Rollins and Miles Davis, had become proficient enough to play

On his return to Jamaica in 1963, McCook cut the Jazz Jamaica from the Workshop album with the help of Don Drummond and the saxophonist Roland Alphonso, who had already been working with the produccr Clement "Coxsone" Dodd. The leading sound system operator of the day, Dodd was merging jazz, American rhythm 'n' blues, boogie-woogie, calypso and mento and pioneering a new syncopated, shuffling sound called ska on his Studio One label.

The producer was very keen on pulling together the best session musicians he already employed hut McCook took a while to come round to the idea. Eventually, in June 1964, he relented and joined forces with Drummond, Moore and Sterling, along with Jackie Mittoo (piano), Lloyd Brevett (bass), Lloyd Knihbs (drums) and Jerome "Jah Jerry" Hines (guitar). Still, the nine-piece strong orchestra needed a name.

"Someone suggested the Satcllites," McCook would tell journalists. "I said no. Skatalites was better since we were playing ska." McCook would also explain what made ska so special: It's the drop, the second and fourth beat where the drum dropped was the key to it. In rhythm 'n' blues, it was the same drop but ska was a little faster, with the guitar playing a different thing and the piano keeping the music lively. It was a good vibe and the singers used to show their appreciation of the beat, so we used to fire hard on that beat. When the horns weren't riffing, we would come in on the ska and add more weight to it.

Always a volatile outfit with so many talents involved, the Skatalites toured all over Jamaica with featured vocalists like Jackie Opel, Delroy Wilson, Doreen Schaefer and Lee Perry. The band cut hundreds of instrumental sides, often composed by Don Drummond, who

favoured Eastern motifs ("Confucius", "Chinatown"); they adapted Beatles songs, Duke Ellington tunes, the James Bood theme, "From Russia With Love" etc. However, tragedy struck on

New Year's Day 1965 when the mentally unstable Drummond didn't take the right medication and subsequently stabbed his girlfriend Margarita Mahfood to death. The trombonist was committed to an institution and died four years later.

The Skatalites never recovered from that blow and broke up. Tommy McCook formed the Supersonics and carried on a husy session schedule with the legendary guitarist Ernest Ranglin. They backed up Alton Ellis, the Paragons (whose "Tide is High" was later revived by Blondie) and released many instrumental versions of the tracks they appeared on.

By the late Seventies, ska, rock steady and reggae bad moved oo from being cult listening for Jamaican exiles, mods, skinheads and rude boys. It now fused with punk to create the 2-Tone Sound of Madness and the Specials who revived "Guns of Navarone" on their 1980 No 1 EP "Too Much Too Young".

With overseas interest in the ska revival from as far away as Japan and Australia, new markets opened for veterans like the Skatalites. The band eventually reformed at the end of the Eighties and based itself in the United States. The burgeoning skacore scene welcomed them with open arms.



received Gramory nominations. Jazz Café in London, But Mc-

The latter featured veterans of Cook did live to see his huge the Jamaican scene like Toots contribution to Jamaican music Hibbert and Prince Buster alongside American jazzmen such as the trumpeter Lester Bowie, thus exhaustive programme of reisbringing the music full circle.

volvement and the saxophonist retired to Georgia. He didn't take part in the "Ball of Fire" project released to great critical acclaim on Island Records had on the UK and Madstock last year by a Skatalites line-up which still boasted the original members Alphonso, Sterling, Brevett and Knibbs and played Ska-Mania and Hi-Bop Ska both a couple of excellent gigs at the

eulogised in the Tougher Than Tough four-CD box set and the sues undertaken by the Blood However, bealth problems and Fire label under the auscurtailed Tommy McCook's in- pices of Steve Barrow and Simply Red's Mick Hucknall.

Indeed with the BBC2 Windrush series acknowledging the impact Jamaican culture has IV, the Nutty Boys event, taking place in Finsbury Park this weekend, McCook's legacy and importance are undeniable. Topping the hill today are Mad-

ness but in support Finley Quaye. Toots and the Maytals, Desmond Dekker and Jazz Jamaica should prove a fitting tribute to Tommy McCook's lasting

influence. The reformed Skatalites of ten offered fans T-shirts with the slogan: "Ska, reggae, rocksteady, it all began with the Skatalites". As Tommy Mc-Cook was fond of saying: "I am your musical servant."

Thomas McCook, tenor saxophon ist, floutist, composer and arranger born Kingston, Jamaica 1927; died Atlanta, Georgia 5 May 1998.

#### Dr Charles Rycroft

CHARLES RYCROFT was British Psychoanalytic Society. of its severest critics. He produced several highly influential books including A Critical Dictionary of Psychoanalysis, which has been continuously in print since it appeared in 1968, and The Innocence of Dreams (also 1968), which he considered to be his finest work.

Rycroft was essentially an essayist, whose clarity of thought and felicity of expression set him apart from most of his psychoanalytic contemporaries. He was suspicious of intellectual system-building, yet the guiding principles which informed his work anticipated and influenced many of today's developmeots in psychoanalytic psychotherapy. Rejecting psychological determinism, and Freud's notion of the "meotal apparatus", he recast psychoanalytic ideas in linguistic terms.

For him the essence of psychotherapy was the search for meaning - hut one informed by hinlogy. He resisted the idea of the analyst as a detached observer, and emphasised the relationship between therapist and patient as the crucial curative element. He saw creativity and the use of symbolism as universal and healthy aspects of the mind, not as manifestations of neurosis. Opposed to the bermeticism of psychoanalysis, his thinking was informed by a wide knowledge of history, literature, and contemporary science - he valued Coleridge. Darwin and Gregory Bateson alongside Freud, W.D. Fair-

bairn and Donald Winnicott. Rycroft was born in 1914 into what be liked to describe as the "lower upper classes". His father was a fox-bunting baronet, who died when Charles was 11, leaving his mother depressed and relatively impoverished. The young Rycroft was sent to Wellington, where he joined a group of "type B Wellingtoni-Gavin Ewart, a lifelong friend.

Although destined for an army career, be went instead to Cambridge where his intellectual gifts and left-wing sympathies were soon apparent. He briefly joined the Communist Party, and, influeoced by Virginia Woolf's brother Adrian Stephen, became interested in what was at that time the subversive discipline of psychoanalysis.

search student, he applied for that he will be seen as a preown account, was considered by Ernest Jones, the doyen of the



Rycroft prescient Photograph: Mark Gerson

one of British psychoanalysis's to be a dilettante, and so was most lucid exponents and one asked to qualify in medicine first. His medical training was at University College Hospital in London, and later he worked briefly in psychiatry at the Maudsley Hospital, before setting up in private practice as an analyst in 1948, continuing to see patients until a few days before his death. His first analyst was Ella

Rate rise

Sharpe, who may have stimulated his interested in metaphor. After her premature death be was treated by Sylvia Payne (he used to joke about the "sharps" and "pains" of analytic training), and rose quickly in the British Psychoanalytic Society, becoming assistant editor of the International Journal of Psychoanalysis and Scientific Secretary (1956-61) and a training analyst, with R.D. Laing perhaps his best-known analysand.

Towards the eod of the 1950s, however, he became dismayed by the rivalry between the Kleinian and Freudian factions, and began to question the scientific credentials of psychoanalysis. He quietly withdrew from the Psychoanalytic Society. devoting instead his considerable literary talents to a wider audience. Throughout the 1960s and 1970s he reviewed prolifically for the Observer, " New Society, New York Review of Books and the New Statesman, evaluating the major figures in 🖫 contemporary psychoanalysis and psychology.
As an analyst he was sup-

portive and empathic, with a bumorous acceptance of buman failings and foibles. He instilled bope, and his existential sympathies meant that he never imposed his will, letting people make their own choices. At the same time he had an uncanny nose for any traces of intellectual and social pretention, selfdeception or snobbery.

He enjoyed clubland, but . was fundamentally a private ans", which included the poet and shy man, who valued solitude alongside his intense but well-ordered friendships. Just as he remained in touch with the biological roots of psychology, be was, without subscribing to . formal religion, also aware of the aspirational aspects of the mind. Writing of the "God I want" he claimed continuity, wholeness and honesty as his deities.

A final evaluation of Rycroft's work and its influence has After a year as a history re- yet to be made, but it is likely psychoanalysis. His role as an anti-establishment insider gave him an unique perspective on the psychoanalytic movement. His inimitable voice - ironic, self-deprecatory, yet quietly authoritative - will long outlive

**Jeremy Holmes** 

Charles Frederick Rycroft, psychoanalyst: born Dummer, Hompshire 9 September 1914; Consultant Psychotherapist, Tavistock Clinic 1956-68; Foundation Fellow, Royal College of Psychiatrists 1973; married 1947 . Chloe Majolier (one son, two daughters; marriage dissolved 1963), 1978 Jenny Pearson; died London 24 May 1998.

#### Professor A. H. Diverres

THE LESS said about the old school of university professors the better; academically brilliant they could be, but all too often they were arrogant, pig-headed, and inefficient. A. H. Diverres was unashamably of the old school, but without the vices.

A fine scholar, with an unassuming approach to intellectual problems and to people, he rapidly became the father of the two university French departments he headed in the 1960s and 1970s. Today's universilies, with their system of rotatiog chairpersons, may avoid some of the vices of the old regime, but at the price of the Paul Féval. After war service in wisdom and responsibility of figures like Armel Hugh Diverres. Diverres spent his academ-

ic career in three universities: Maochester, Aberdeen and Swansea. After studying at Swansea Grammar School, where Dylan Thomas was one of his contemporaries, he graduated with first class honours in French from the University College of Swansea in 1936. Two years later he obtained the Licence-es-Lettres at the University of Rennes and the MA of the University of Wales for



a thesis on the Breton writer the artillery and the Intelligence Corps, in 1946 be was drawn into the brilliant circle of medievalists which was growing up around Eugene Vinaver in Manchester.

He remained as Lecturer in French at Manchester University uotil 1954, when he moved to a Senior Lectureship at Aberdeen, succeeding Professor F.C. Roe in the Carnegie Chair of French in 1958. His sound, long-term view of the university scene and developed capacity to lead were just the qualities

TODAY: King Albert II of the Bel-

gians, 64; Sir Derek Alun-Jones,

Birthdays

and faculty through turbulent years following May 1968, To the dismay of his colleagues, in 1974 he accepted the Chair of Freoch at Swansea. In this way, the last seveo years of his career were spent in his home university where he was in fact renewing a family link, for his French from 1923 to 1946.

Diverres's main contribuof Qid French language and literature. His early work in Manchester was on medieval French chronicles: his doctoral thesis of 1950 was an edition of La Chronique métrique attribuée à Geffroy de Paris, which still provides a model, not simply of meticulousness, but of insights into the workings of the medieval French mind and of the Old French language.

He then moved on to Froissart with an edition of the Voynge en Béam. However, as a Welshman with strong Breton connections working in Scutland, it is inevitable that the Celtic legends of Arthur and Tristan should have become

David Coleridge, former chairman of

Lloyd's, 66; Sir Murray Fox, former

the International Arthurian Society, Diverrès served first as crowned by his two-year appointment as International father had been a lecturer in President of the society in 1981. a Welsh mother, he could oot

ton, French and English, Armel of culture and education. His tion to scholarship is in the field Diverres was fascinated by lan- achievements in the field of exage. Langu culture were inseparable. I vividly remember being ticked off as a junior lecturer for innocently ordering for the library a translatioo into modern French of the Chanson de Roland. This, Diverres felt, would discourage the students from reading the real text.

However, he was not trapped in the world of traditional philology - be saw the richness of contemporary linguistics and was concerned that it should be central to Modern Languages in universities, at the time when philology was coming under pressure. He was instrumental in setting up a Linguistics Dehis strongest preoccupation. partment and well-resourced

of the romances of his favourite He acted as Governor of the Arthurian poet, Chrétien de Centre for Information on Lan-Troyes. A founder member of guage Teaching and Research. Had his foresight in this area been imitated elsewhere, the sit-Vice-President then as President uation of Modern Languages in of the British Branch. This was schools and universities today would have been much stronger.

Son of a Breton father and As a speaker of Welsh, Bre- have a narrow prescriptive view land were recognised by the award by the French government of the Palmes Académiques in 1971. From 1976 to 1978 he was President of the Society for Freech Studies.

At the same time he was pure Celt. He was extraordinarily proud of his Welsh language and background: after returning to Wales at the end of his career, he thrust himself energetically into Welsh national life, serving on the University of Wales Press Board and acting as a Governor of the National Museum of Wales. As a man steeped in many cultures he was ideally equipped to teach generations of British students re-

needed to steer his department. He produced numerous studies. language centre in Aberdeen. spect for equally valid worlds far removed from their own.

On the personal level, Diverres will be remembered for his friendliness and generosity. At Christmas-time, he would visit all colleagues in the French department with small children and distribute toys to them. All this in the greatest simplicity and with a total lack of condescension.

His enthusiasm for his subject and his gift of commuhim in a mixture of affection and awe. Any claim to have seen the Loch Ness Monster at Castle Urquhart would normally be dismissed as ridiculous, but not when the person making it was A. H. Diverres.

**Anthony Lodge** Armel Hugh Diverres, French scholar: barn Liverpool 4 September 1914; Lecturer in French, Monchester University 1946-54; Senior Lecturer in French, Aberdeen University 1954-58, Carnegie Professor of French 1958-74; Professor of French, University College of Swansea 1974-81 (Emeritus); married 1945 Ann Williams (one son, two daughters): died Swansea 27 May 1998.

#### Lord, which side should win the World Cup?

Football has as big a following as religion because both are equally absurd, argues Andrew Brown.

On its own this would be a strong entry. The fact that he describes them as "very adult prayers" and suggests a competition for primary schools to come up with equivalents that children can understand absolutely guarantees him the prize. I had wanted to write a piece contrasting the way in which an

in football is held to be a sign of rationality: Mr Markby has ruined this plan, since he shows that it is perfectly possible to combine both forms of enthusiasm without deviating into any sort of adulthood

But it is still extremely strange that when people babble on about God a little puddle of embarrassment forms all around them, whereas an interest in football is now the mark of an educated man. The process reached some kind of milestone this year when both the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Archhishop of Westminster excused themselves from a demo against Third World Debt in order to watch the Cup Final. The objection to this is not that it was sinful -- who can doubt their capacity to absolve themselves for this, or even each other if they're feeling ecumenical, but that it's perfectly ridiculous.

The last outbreak of popular religiosity before the World Cup was the death of Diana, but there at least there was some sense that her life and passion, as both were mythologised, had some kind of moral or social message. People believed that she embodied interesting and important truths about beinterest in religion is taken to be su- ing human. But football is a sort of

people are famous for being famous, football is popular for bring popular, significant for being significant.

Theology, at least sometimes, or in some lights, actually asks questions to which there might be interesting answers. I know this can be difficult to believe. For years I have known that when someone prefaces his remarks with "let us reflect on this theologically" he is going to abandon even the pretence of an obligation to make sense. But I do know two or three people to whom these strictures do not apply. It is impossible to imagine any question which might be vered by attendance at a football match. Perhaps it is like the Orthodox liturgy: what matters is that it should be celebrated every week and, so long as this happens, there is oo need to ask what anything means. The noise, the company, the communal singing are all in obscure ways necessary to God.

Actually the link between Orthodoxy, football and theology goes deeper and further back than that. The last reasonably civilised state to pay as much attention to sport as we do was Byzantium, where the chariot racers in the Hippodrome were divided into two main teams, the blue and green. The whole city was divided into followers of

one or the other, and regular riots attended the progress of the league. The two factions gradually became political tribes as well, thus acquiring even more excuses to massacre one another. Emperors had to hack one or the other. Finally, since Byzantium was a state that took Christianity seriously, the hlues and greens began to take sides in the great theological disputes of the day.

Under the emperor Justinian, the blues were identified with Mooophytism, or the doctrine that Christ had only one nature; and the greens with the ultimately Orthodox viewpoint that he was both perfectly human and perfeetly divine. Nothing could seem more arcane, yet the effects of these pursuits persist to this day. If the eastern provinces of the empire had not been oppressed for their Monophysite beliefs, they might not have welcomed the Islamic invaders as they did.

I suppose we're still a little better off than the Byzantines: at least the supporters of different football teams do not wander through London abusing each others' eucharistic doctrines. That only happens in Glasgow and to a lesser extend in Belfast too. Perhaps football does make a better religion than religion does, just because it is so utterly absurd.

#### BIRTHS. **MARRIAGES** & DEATHS

#### **DEATHS**

CHISHOLM: Beloved friend, sister, niece and daughter, Diana (Di) Katherine Chisholm, on 23 May 1998, Memorial meeting at 7pm on Friday 19 June 1998 at the Friends' Friday 19 June 1998 at the Friends; Meeting House at Mount Street in Central Manchester. Later a celebration and thanksgiving at St Peter's Church, Prestbury, Cheshire, at 2.30pm on 11 September 1998. Private cremation. Donations to the Spinal Injuries Association. Enquiries to J.W. Brocklehurst & Sons Ltd, Prestbury (04625) 829232. GROAK: Steven It is with prest sad-

GROAK: Steven. It is with great sadness that the family of Steven Groak announce his unexpected death on Wednesday 3 June 1998.

Amouncements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, Wedding anniversaries, In Hemoriam) should be sent in writing to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London El4 5DL, telephoned to 617-273 2011 or fused to 0171-273 2010, and are charged at (ASO a line (VAT extra). O'THER Gazette announcements must be submitted in writing (or fazad) and are charged at 610 a line, VAT extra. Please include a daytime telephone number.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

nging of the Guard

Lord Mayor of London, 86; Mr Martyn Goff, executive chairman, former executive chairman, Ferran-ul International, 65: Professor Brebis Sotherans, 75; Mr James Ivory, film director, 70; Mr Peter Jones, former Bleaney, physicist, 83; Mrs Jane Betts, Secretary-General, the Law So-Director, Atomic Weapons Research Establishment, 73; Mr Tom Jones, cicry, 45; Mr David Blunken MP, singer, 58; Mr Jaime Laredo, violin-ist, 57; Sir Eric McDowell, chairman. Minister of Education and Employment. 51; Mr Bjorn Borg, tennis play-er. 42; Lord Carrington, former chairman, Christie's International, 79; ist, 57; Sir Eric McDowell, chairman, Capita Management Consultants. 73; Miss Virginia McKenna, actress, 67; Mr Liam Neeson, actor, 46; Mr Prince Rogers Nelson ("Prince"), rock musician, 38; Mr Thomas Ar-fon Owen, former Director, Weish Arts Council, 65; Mr Michael Pen-Mr David Chipp, former Director, Reuter Foundation, 71; Dame Ninene de Valois, founder of the Royal Ballet, 100; Mr Mike Gatting, cricketer, 4t; Lord Gladwin of Clee, nington, actor and writer, 55; Mr Ronald Pickup, actor, 58; Mr Neal Radford, cricketer, 41; Mr Jun Rose, former trade union leader, 68; Mr tain Hamilton, composer, 76; Pro-fessor Robert Humphreys, Latinformer chairman, Penguin Books, 89; The Very Rev John Simpson, Dean of Camerbury, 65; Professor Sir William Stewart, former Chief Sci-American historian, 9t; Mr Asif tqbal, former Pakistan cricket cap-tain, 55: Mr J. Kay-Mouat, former President of the Alderney States, 65; entific Adviser, Cabinet Office, 63: Mr Mr Tim Llewellyn, radio news re-porter, 58; Mr Willie-John McBride, Norman Strouse, popular composer, 70; Mr John Turner QC, former prime minister of Canada, 69; Mr Mark Young, trade union leader, 69. rughy player, 58; Sir Jonathan Mance, High Court judge, 55; Sir Robin Maxwell-Hystop, former MP, Robin Maxwell-Hyslop, former MP, 67; Sir Douglas Morpeth, former partner, Touche Ross & Co, 74; Sir Bryan Nicholson, chairman, British United Provident Association, 66; Air Marshul Sir Charles Pringle. 79; Dr Ruth Sanger, former Director, MRC Blood Group Unit, 80; Lord Stodart of Leaston, former government minister, 82; Mr Frank Tyson, former England cricketer, 68; Miss Billie Whitelow, actress, 66; Sir Donald William.

Whitelaw, actress, 66; Sir Donald Wil-

son, Chairman, Electricity Consul-tative Council, North West, 76. TOMORROW: Lady Elizabeth An-

son, party planner, 57; Mr Derek Bar-ron, former chairman and chief

executive, Ford Motor Co, 69; The Right Rev Michael Baughen, former

Bishop of Chester, 68; Miss Ann

Beach, actress and singer, 60; Sir Wil-fred Cockeroft, chairman, Educa-

tional Project Resources, 75; Mr

**Anniversaries** 

TODAY: Births: Thomas Mann, novelist, 1875, Deaths: Carl Gustav Jung, psychiatrist, 1961. On this day: the Allied invasion of Normandy took place – D-Day, 1944. Today is the Feast Day of St Ceratius or Cerase. St Claud of Besancon, St Eustorgius
II of Milan, St Gudwal or Gurval, St
Jarlath, St Norbert and St Philip the
Deacon. TOMORROW: Births: Edward Morgan Foster, novelist, 1970. On this day: the first parliament of Northern Ireland opened, 1921. Today is the Feast Day of St Antony Gianelli, St Colman of Dromore, St Gottschaft. St Meriadoc or more, or Gouschalk, St Meriadoc or Meriasek, St Paul I of Constantino-ple, St Robert of Newminster, St Vulflagius or Wulphy and St Willibald.

#### **FAITH & REASON**

THERE has been hot competition for the post, but with only a year left for an outsider to pop up on the rails, I think we are in a position to name the most squirm-making prayer of the century, contributed to the Church Times by the Rector of Southover, the Reverend Peter Markby. "Lord, I wonder which side you want to win the World Cup? Is it the country that most needs the psychological boost of a win? Is it the team with most Christians in it? Perhaps it is the team that has worked hardest to develop their footballing gifts?"

perstitious nonsense, while an interest celebrity for the masses. Just as some

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# Rate rise soon forgotten as Footsie powers ahead

MARKET REPORT



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AN ARRAY of stockbroker demerged Express Dairies huy recommendations and were attractive ahead of next more takenver activity over- week's figures. NF rose 6p to whelmed any lingering blues 235p and Express 11p to 177p. over Thursday's surprise in- The investment house also terest rate increase.

With New York displaying Foods, up 26.5p to 589.5p. little coocern over strong US Mcrrill Lynch sweetened Cademployment figures, and anx- bury Schweppes 31.5p to ieties about the Far East con- 981.5p. tinuing to fade, the stock market scored gains over a by the emergence of takeover wide front. Footsie put on a de- activity, had its fans. A numtermined performance with ber of bouses, including Panan 86.5 points gain to 5,947.3. mure Gordon, pushed Supporting shares, too, were Greenalls, up 9.5p to 532p: in form with the mid cap in-

Trading was not particularly brisk. Many investors were up 38.5p to 457.5p, reflected content to sit on the sidelines until the impact of the dearer interest. money move becomes clearer.

Boots, up 44.5p to 1,028.5p. a bid approach on Thursday. responded to a Morgan Stanley 1,100p target price. SG Securities was rather more cautious, shooting for 1,060p.

ABN Amro alighted on

favoured Associated British

The beerage, helped along

Wolverhampton & Dudley. dex at a new peak of 5,934.6. supported by Schroders, put on 5p at 534.5p and Morland. Teather & Greenwood Vaux, which acknowledged

> was unchanged at 345p, Ushers of Trowbridge frothed 25.5p higher to 127.5p after reporting approaches. A venture capitalist-led hid, possibly

Whithread, after an in-36p to 1,025p.

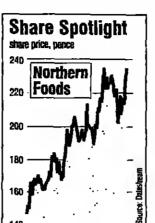
Other shares drawing analytical support included National Grid, 2.5p higher at 291.5p; Lloyds TSB, 21.5p to 895p; and Vodafine, 15.5p to 755.5p. Insurances attracted positive comment and renewed talk of more consolidation; GRE gained 21p at 389p and Royal & Sun Al-

liance 33p to 674p. BTP, with links to the Viagra impotence drug, rose 15.5p to 532.5p following BT Alex.Brown buy advice. It exnects next week's figures for the year to be some 12 per cent ahead at £54m.

It was not all one-way traffic. The generators were flagged as sells by Merrill. Even so National Power glowed 11p to 586p and Power-Gen 9.5p to 782.5p. One worry for the generators is the prospect of tougher Government restrictions, including a

vestment presentation, rose by Sweden's Astra to buy full shire. It will be the first time 8.5p. Interim profits are up control of a joint venture it a water company has been al- sevenfold at £276,000 and runs with the American Merck lowed to handle both sewage stockbroker Ellis & Partner is group creating much of the ex- and water in a town outside its looking for a £600,000 year's citement. Glaxo Wellcome hardened 27p to 1,676p and is in Southern Water and SmithKline Beecham 18.5p

to 668.5p. Thames Water rose 18p to a 1,038p high, following its asm when it said talks now takclearance to supply the garri-



traditional territory. Tidworth outcome against £331,000. Wessex Water country.

SDX Business Systems dampened takeover enthusiing place indicated a bid price 269.5p. of 325p. The shares, 353.5p a month ago, softened 3p to 328.5p. Electronic publisher Forward Technology hardened

0.75p to 13.5p after ending one

set of bid talks and starting dis-

cussions with another group Upton & Snothern, the small department store chain. duly produced the suspected deal. It is paying £985,000 in ker Killik expects acquisitions cash, loan notes and shares for and says buy. 50.1 per cent of Garner International, a recently formed tems, the Ofex high flyer, rose Mayfair-hased executive 3p to 235.5p. Stockbroker JM search consultancy. The Finn raised around £2.6m

shares rose 0.75p to 3.75p An upheat trading state-

Drugs were high with a hid son town of Tidworth in Wilt- a design practice, 0.75p to

BTG continued to benefit from its Torotrak gearbox venture, motoring 19p to 755.5p. Computer group Camina, figures soon, hardened 12p to

Electronics Boutique, the computer games retailer, firmed to 95.5p. ABN conducted institutional crosses at 98.5p. A year ago the shares were 30.25p and have been down to 16.75p.

Barbican Healthcare, a privateer medical group, edged Robotic Technology Sys-

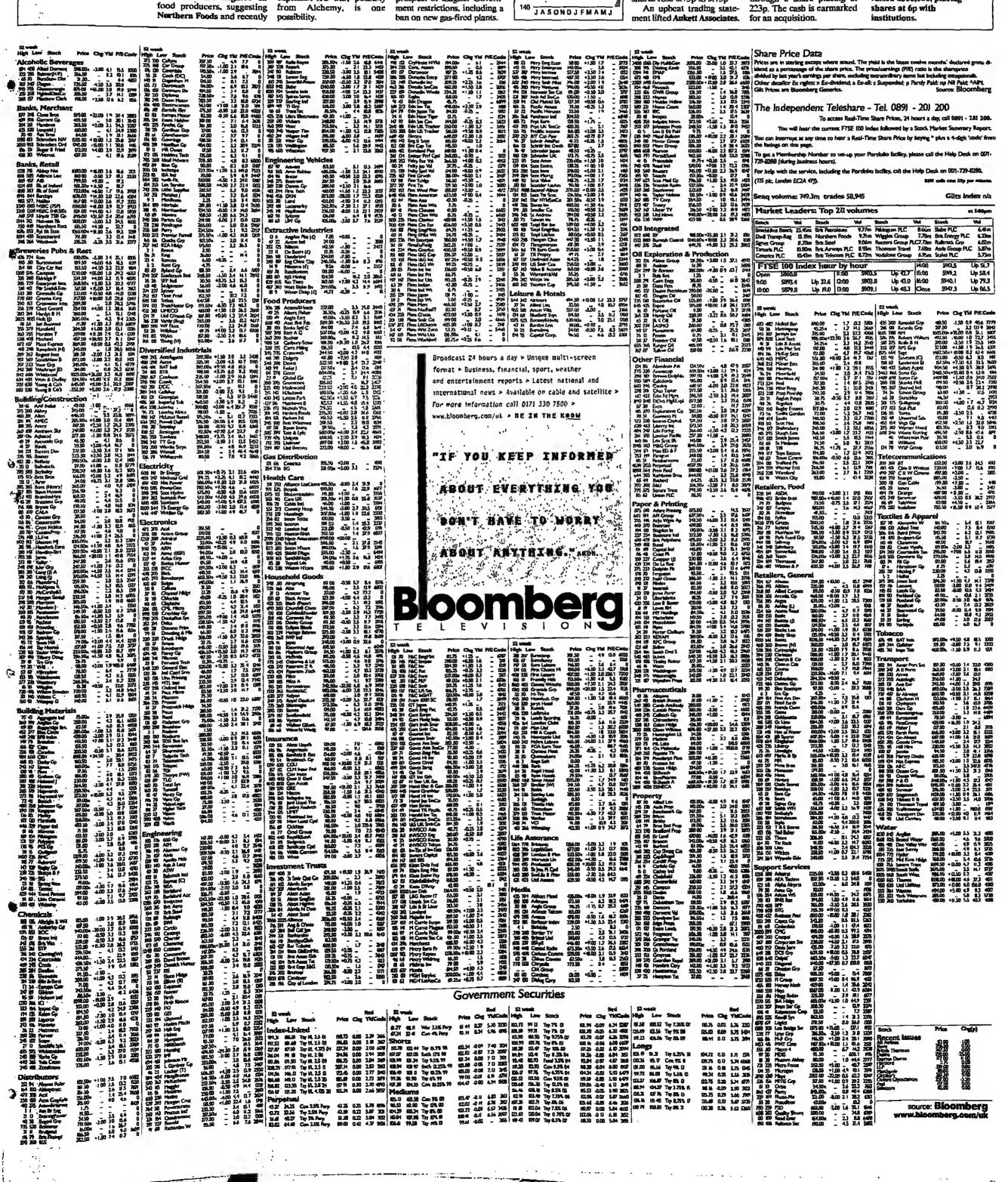
through a share placing at 223p. The cash is earmarked

#### TAKING STOCK

INTEGRATED Asset Management, the investment group which lost heavily when it failed to buy Manchester stockbroker John Siddall, fell a further 4p to a 33.5p low. The shares returned from suspension this week; they were frozen at 130p. Now under new management, IAM is expected to seek to expand through acquisitions in the near future.

FRIENDS Ivory & Sime, the result of the Ivory & Sime merger with Friends Provident Asset Management, shruld achieve profits of £16.6m this year, £17.5m next and then £18.7m, says Merrill Lynch. Chief executive Peter Jones acquired 25,000 shares at 204p and two nther directors picked up stock. The shares fell 1p to 203.5p.

METRODOME, the film and music group, held at 11p. It raised £500,000, placing shares at 6p with institutions.



# Rolls-Royce falls into German hands

#### Shareholders vote to accept £430m VW bid

By Michael Harrison

THE LUXURY car maker Rolls-Royce yesterday fell under German control after an lith-hour attempt to keep the world famous marque io British hands failed. Shareholders in Vickers,

the pareot company of Rolls. voted by a crushing majority to sell the company to Volkswageo for £430m, ending almost a ceotury of British ownership of the Rolls-Royce and Bentley makes.

The vote followed a highly charged and emotional fourmeeting culminated in a desperate but unsuccessful scramhle by a group of Rolls-Royce enthusiasts to assemble a rival hid for shareholders to consider.

The meeting io central Londoo was adjourned at ooe stage for nearly an hour to eoable Michael Shrimptoo. chairman of the Crewe Motors consortiom, to put details of his offer to the Vickers board and its financial advisers while shareholders went for coffee.

But after the unprecedented ioterruptioo - duhbed the "coffee hreak bid" -- the Vickers chairman Sir Colin Chandler emerged to tell shareholders that the consortium had failed to coovince him, either about the identity of its backers or its financing.

He also said that the coosortium, though styled as a British rescuer, appeared to be dominated by foreign interests. "We have listened to Mr Shrimpton on behalf of his foreign backers and the situation has not changed," added Sir

Mr Shrimpton, a 41-yearold harrister, arrived for the meeting at the Royal Horticultural Halls in Westminster in his chauffeur-driven Beotley Turbo and was helped through the media scrum by his driver, Barrington Shaw. He said he had been working day and oight with only six hours' sleep in the past week to assemble the bid and had access to £500m in a Zurich hank account and a further \$2bn in accounts in the Bahamas and elsewhere in

Switzerland. Crewe Motors, he told shareholders, has tabled a £460m bid - £30m more than VW - at 3.30 oo Thursday afternoon, since when it had beeo waiting for faxes and the arrival of couriers to autheoticate its offer.

However, Sir Colin said that there was no certainty about the availability of funds. the identity of the hackers and the time it would take to complete the offer. Dismissing the Crewe Motors bid as an "undignified scramhle to raise mooey without any substance", Sir Colin urged shareholders to back the VW offer. "Any further delay will damage Rolls-Royce Motor Cars and you doo't want that to happen."

The VW bid was theo approved by a majority of 98 per ceot. Of the 341m shares in circulation, 209.6m or 62 per cent were voted and of those only 2 per ceot were against the sale to the German car-maker.

Small shareholders and Rolls-Royce fans did not go down without a fight, however. Peter Royce, the greatnephew of one of the



Michael Shrimpton, chairman of Crewe Motors, being helped through the media scrum by his chauffeur Barrington Shaw

company's two founders, Henry Royce, was present to witoess his great uncle's company pass into foreign hands. "How can you possibly do a deal like this?" he asked Sir Colio. "This is Britain and we do not do thinks like this in Britain."

Another shareholder, Peter Torre, a certified Rolls-Royce chauffeur from Hendon, north London, said: "When I put my uniform oo I am very proud that I am driving a uoique piece of machinery. It is sad to see the marque pass out of British hands.

One shareholder said the marque would have to be renamed the "Rollswageo", while another accused Vickers of "selling the birthright of British industry and all that goes with it."

The managing director of Rolls-Royce, Graham Morris, disclosed that he would have resigned if Crewe Motors had succeeded in buying the business. "Not because I am anti-British but because I am anti-job losses," he told share-Alooe among the almost

excusively British contingent of investors was one German shareholder, the general manager of BMW Alpine. He

urged the meeting to reject the hid from the "nouveau riche" VW and accept the rival but lower £340m offer from BMW. "Rolls-Royce and Beotley are simply the hest of British tradition and they should join with an eoterprise which is in a position to enlarge and preserve that heritage for

As soon as confirmation of the vote emerged, BMW said that ownership, of Rolls-Royce was "oo looger an issue" and confirmed it would cancel its contract to supply engines for the new Silver Seraph and Beotley Arnage. VW has

made provision for this by signing a deal to huy the eogine manufacturer Cosworth from Vickers for a further £120m, a sale that will now go

The outcome of the eightmonth battle for control of Rolls-Royce paves the way for a three-way fight between Germany's leading carmakers for ascendency in the luxury car market, BMW intends to press ahead with the BMW9 series - a competitor in the Beotley sector of the market - while Daimler-Benz is well-advanced with plans to launch a top-of-the-range car, the May-

Vickers is selling the birthright of British industry and all that goes with it?

The end of an era

bach. VW itself intends to keeping Rolls-Royce in launch a mid-sized Bentley in addition to the two-door Bentley and Rolls saloon range as part of its plans to quadruple output from Crewe to as much

as 10,000 cars a year. VW said last night that it had a deep respect for Rolls-Royce and inteoded to preserve the characteristics of craftsmanship and exclusivity for which the marque was famous. However, shareholders were not so certian. One forecast that VW would "destroy the brand image" of Rolls-Royce. Another said: "I would oot lay a level pound on VW

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As the meeting ended Sir Colin left a faint hope flickering for the Rolls enthusiasts by promising that if a higher 🗥 offer emerged before the sale to VW is completed on 3 July which was credible and uncooditional then it would be taken seriously.

But the die-hard fans knew the game was up. As Professor Donald Longmore, the distinguished consultant who is also attempting to assemble a British bid, observed: "Without the money, you are just a

#### Bank of Ireland set to top Halifax's Midshires offer

By Andrew Verity

BANK of Ireland is poised to join the battle to huy Birmingham Midshires Building Society with a hid that will top the £780m already offered by the Halifax. Executives from the £5.9bn

bank are understood to have already held internal discussions about a hid - just days after Midshires was released from a £630m offer from Royal Bank of Scotland.

Sources said the hank was likely to approach Birmingham Midshires oext week with a proposal for talks that could lead to a hidding war with the Halifax and other interested Bank of Ireland is looking

to expand its interests in the UK after successfully buying Bristol & West Building Society for £600m last July. It has explicitly stated its interest in further expansion into the UK mortgage market. Pat Molloy, the bank's chief

executive, confirmed at the bank's last results that a UK acquisition was oo the cards. Asked whether he had any plans in the UK market, he replied: While we have nothing specific in mind we would certainly be interested in expanding in the area of mortgages."



Mathewson: RBS demand

Ironically, the Irish bank has significant ties with Royal Bank of Scotland, which demanded a £5m payment after Midshires reoeged on a deal struck last August to buy the society for £630m. After discussing the deal with George Mathewson, chief executive of RBS, Midshires agreed to pay a further £10m to RBS if the society was bought by the Halifax - but oot if another bidder was successful.

Royal Bank of Scotland holds the majority stake in Citizens Financial Group, a bank based in New England on the eastern seaboard of the US. Bank of Ireland has a 23 per ceot stake in Citizens. Both Dr Mathewsoo and Mr Molloy sit on the board of Citizens.

Halifax is expected to meet Midshires executives next week to discuss terms.

#### Call for power shake-up

By Michael Harrison

THE electricity regulator yesterday called for a sweeping overhaul of trading arrangements in the electricity pool in a bid to make the power market more competitive.

**Professor Stephen Lit**tlechild, director general of Offer, said the current system whereby generators bid their power stations into the pool 24 bours in advance with the price set by the cost of the last station should be abandoned.

Instead he recommended fresh arrangements more in line with other competitive energy and commodity markets.

The proposals include arrangements to allow both generators and customers to bid prices into the pool between 24 and four hours in advance, a forward market and settlement process.

Professor Littlechild also called for an overhaui of the way the pool is governed to give customer bodies a greater say in its operation.

# Manufacturing lags as US jobs total rises by 300,000

By Andrew Marshall in Washington

THE US employment market displayed another hurst of strength in May, adding ocarly 300,000 jobs. But behind the figures, there were signs of weakness in industry due to the impact of the Asian economic

The data confirmed that the US Federal Reserve faces a difficult decision over whether to increase interest rates. But Wall Street took a benign view, preferring to focus on the positive impact oo second-quarter profits rather than the inflationary risks.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up more than 100 points by early afternoon, at 8974.44. That reaction helped the FTSE 100 index climb nearly 87 points to 5,947.3, more than recovering from the previous day's setback.

The US unemployment rate was stable at 4.3 per cent in May, remaining at the 28-year low recorded in April. But the economy added 296,000 jobs, far more than expected.

The job gains came in the domestically oriented service sector, with ao increase of 322,000. New jobs were added in temporary help firms, retailing, data processiog.

Manufacturing employment declined slightly by 26,000, with a loss of jobs in the clothing industry, electronic equipment, industrial machinery and car. manufacturing. "It is reasonable to suspect.

computers and finance.

that at least some of the recent declines in manufacturing employment and hours are related to Asia's ecocomic problems," said Katharine Abraham of the Bureao of Labour Statistics.

Average hourly earnings. rose by four cents in May, and have risen 4.4 per cent over the past year - faster than consumer price inflation.

#### American bid approach for Ushers

By Clifford German

USHERS of Trowhridge, the Wiltshire hrewery sold off by Grand Metropolitan in 1991 as part of its merger deal with Courage, is the latest regional brewer to receive "an unsolicited approach which could lead to a hid. It follows within 24 hours of an approach to Vaux the Northeast hrewery and hotels group.

Ushers floated at 110p a

share last March but its first year's plans were shattered by the loss of the contract to brew for Scottish & Newcastle, which accounted for a third of its con-

tract brewing. tially recouped by the deal to brew for its neighbour Gibbs Mew, which closed its own brewery last year. The shares slumped to a low of 70p fol-

huy-backs.

Sales have heen only parlowing a profit warning and only receotly struggled back to

90p helped by plans for share

Yesterday they leapt 25.5p to 127.5p in the hope of a bid at 130p, believed to he from Alchemy, a US-based veoture capital group. It would value the group, which has 128 pubs and recently bought some hotels, at £127m aod the shares around 12 times earnings. Schroder Veoture Funds hold 28 per cent of the SBC company and

funds a further 20 per ceot. The approaches triggered a round of broker recommenda-

tions yesterday. Panmure Gordon issued huy notes oo both Greenalls and Ushers, ABN Amro recommended Greene King and Greenalls, Cazenove advised clieots to huy Youogs and Greeoalls, Teather & Greenwood favoured Morlands, and another broker tipped Wolverhampton & Dudley as well as Greenalls.

#### Thames wins outside contract

By Michael Harrison

A GROUND-breaking deal to extend competition in the water industry was approved yesterday after the regulator published plans to let Thames Water supply an army barracks outside its local area.

Under the agreement. Thames will supply both water and sewerage services to customers in the garrison town of Tidworth in Wiltshire.

Thames has signed a 20-year contract with the Ministry of Defence to supply both the military and civilian population of Tidworth - in an area served by Wessex Water and Southern

This would be first "inset" appointment for both water and sewage, whereby a company takes over supplies in another franchise area.

Anglian Water has a contract to supply water only to

TOURIST RATES

italy (Tira)

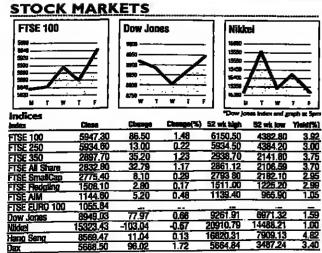
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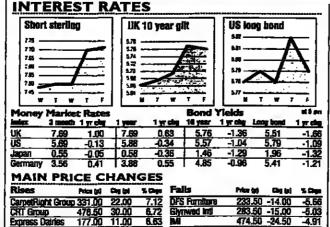
a chicken farm outside its own

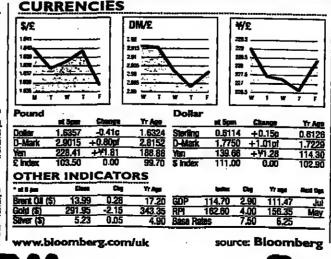
lao Byatt, director geoeral of water services, said the Thames agreement would iocrease competitioo in the industry.

The MoD owns and operates the water system in Tidworth for the barracks as well as the civilian population. The site is oot connected to either Thames' main water or sewerage system. O.

#### Yesterday in the markets







Australia (\$)	2.6066	Maita (Ilra)	_
Austria (schillings)	19.71		0.6148
Beigium (francs)	57.89	Mexican (nuevo peso)	13.09
Canada (\$)	2.3181	Netherlands (guilders)	3.1604
Cyprus (pounds)	0.8220	New Zealand (S)	3.0297
Denmark (krone)		Norway (krone)	11.86
Finland (marida)	10.75	Portugal (escudos)	284,93
France (francs)	8.5778	Saudi Arabia (rials)	5,9555
Germany (marks)	9.4114	Singapore (\$)	2,6378
Greece (drachma)	28165_	Spain (pesetas)	237.90
	475.12	South Africa (rands)	6.0520
Hong Kong (\$)	12.28	Swedish Krone	12.39
Ireland (punts)	1_1101	Switzerland (francs)	2.3410
Indian (rupees)	62.77	Thailand (bahts)	
Israel (stiekels)	5.5165	Turions (Tempt)	<u>63.31</u>

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JEREMY WARNER ON HOW DAVID MONTGOMERY MAY BE ABOUT TO VANQUISH HIS CRITICS

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المنتسينية بنوا

# Don't believe everything you read in the press

MEDIA companies and their executives tend to get a lot more column inches devoted to them in the press than their importance as businesses and husinessmen perhaps deserves. The reasons for this are obvious; journalists are able to write about these companies with a degree of inside knowledge and understanding that they often don't possess as far as other industries are concerned.

While this offers insights that you don't get about other businesses, it doesn't necessarily make for a fair, impartial or useful view of what's happening in the world. Often these accounts are coloured by a mixture of the overtly commercial and the cynically personal.

The commercial interest takes the form either of total denial -as often happens in the Murdoch press when writing about the affairs of its proprietor - or of knocking copy about a rival organisation, which is happening with growing levels of vitriol throughout the press.

Then there is the personal. Senior and even quite junior positions in the media are traded with an abandon matched only by the City. There seems to be a perpetual game of musical chairs in progress. Sacked or otherwise disaffected employees find it easy to gain an alternative platform to vent their spleen. In my experience, employees m nearly all companies, up to an alarmingly

high level of management, have a poor view of the abilities and strategies of their senior executives. But in no other industry is it possible for the employee, in this case the journalist, to gain such a powerful public medium to air their grievances, as well as their opinions.

The most successful companies, not just in the media but in all industries, are those that manage to bridge this divide between management and workforce. Lamentacly they are few and far between. In any event, I suspect you would find all industries written about with the same critical eye and venom as media companies, given the same platform and writing skills. There is already a growing body of this sort of material on the Internet and certainly it makes for great entertainment.

So what's my point? I don't want to apologise for anyone, but I do want to examine a particular case of this kind of treatment. It's hard to recall a businessman receiving a worse press in recent times than that dished out to David Montgomery. chief executive of Mirror Group. He's been demonised in a way normally reserved for international fraudsters or spectacular bankrupts. As far as media moguls go, only Rupert Murdoch gets it more in the neck, and with him there's usually a grudging respect behind the strictures. Mr Montgomery has had it so badly that it's not just

public opinion that is affected, but City perceptions too, and it has plainly damaged his share price.

Bits of it may or may not be fair, but quite a lot of it is not. Personally Mr Montgomery is not what he's often made out to be. He's determined and ambitious, updoubtedly ruthless and certainly a little awkward, hut he also has a quiet charm and is a consummate professional. As an Ulsterman, he's played a vital role in the Northern Ireland peace process, which is acknowledged by the Prime Minister himself, often spending long hours haranguing and persuading his unionist countrymen of the need to cede ground and give up the old conflict.

His record as a businessman - which is actually pretty good - is also quite unrecognisable in what is generally written about him. When he took over at Mirror Group in the wake of Maxwell's death, there were serious doubts about the survival of the company, if not its titles. Yet Mirror Group was put back on an even keel financially, the old corrupt practices and excesses of the Maxwell years were exorcised, and the papers were moved to new, low-cost premises in Canary Wharf. Today Mirror Group achieves some of the highest operating margins in the industry.

In achieving these, Mr Montgomery may have cut too deeply into the editorial re-

source of his products. Certainly we have felt that on The Independent, which Mirror Group half owned until recently. There has also been a lack of any clear editorial strategy, which has been reflected in the declining circulations of all his main titles.

It is chiefly these two factors which have worried the City, led to the underperformance of Mirror Group's share price in recent years, and prompted the great outpouring of hostile copy. Furthermore, Mirror Group's diversifications have proved costly and not particularly inspired. In this department, however, Mr Montgomery has found himself largely a victim of fortune.

Mirror Group's comparatively small size and the one-product nature of the company -which is essentially the Mirror and its satellites - has made it hard to compete with the greater fire power of larger, diversified media groups such as News Corporation. At the same time, the arbitrary nature of the cross-media ownership rules have blocked Mirror Group from profitable diversification into TV. Ironically, Mirror Group recently fell below the 20 per cent of national newspaper circulation which acts as a threshold for ownership of a TV franchise. Unfortunately, everything decent has long since been snapped up.

None of this may be much of an excuse, hut it does at least explain why Mr Montgomery has adopted the approach he has

financiers would readily understand the balance that needs to be achieved between costs and revenue if an acceptable rate of return is to be earned, even if many journalists do not. As a relatively small player in a mature and highly competitive market, this is never achieved without a degree of pain, and it requires tough decisions.

Furthermore it is now apparent beyond doubt that Mirror Group is not the busted flush many of these accounts claim. With its titles beginning so show unmistakable signs of life under the guiding hand of Mirror Group's new deputy chief executive, Kelvin MacKenzie, the company has become the object of a number of hid approaches. We already know about Axel Springer and Trinity. Not generally known about is the possibility of a venture capital bid for the company in conjunction with some or all of the top management. Royal Bank of Scotland is being lined up to provide finance. There's also the possibility of a bid from the Barclays' fledgling media empire.

Mr Montgomery's supposed asking price of 300p a share begins to look not as impossible as it might have seemed. And if he achieves that, none of the sniping he has received from the press will matter a jot. Certainly there will he not a murmur of discontent in the City.

#### Forex dealers barred from **UK** investment business

TWO forex dealers have been disqualified from UK investment business after a tribunal found they "were reckless in the extreme and showed a total disregard for the obligations placed on those who have the custody of others' assets". The Financial Services Authority tribunal found James Okoro Okarimia and William Edward Samuel Newton, of Global Foreign Exchange Corporation, were not fit and proper persons to be employed in investment business. It found the directors of Global, a small private client specialising in rolling Forex spot options, had tried to hide the identity of Global's owners from the FSA. Mr Okarimia and Mr Newton had also deceived bailiffs into thinking the company's assets had been sold when they had not. Glohal was wound up in June last year owing £250,000 to investors.

#### Construction volume leaps

CONSTRUCTION is booming, according to the latest official figures. The volume of total output, which accounts for about 5 per cent of GDP, jumped 2.6 per cent in the first quarter of this year. The amount of new work reached a 25-year high, continuing a strong upward trend since mid-1996. The surge was driven by private industrial construction, up 12 per cent compared with the final quarter of 1997, and infrastructure, up 9 per cent.

#### BBC included on digital Sky

BRITISH Sky Broadcasting, the satellite television group, yesterday announced that BBC's digital channels will be available on Sky's digital satellite service when it is launched this month. The deal, which involves the BBC paying BSkyB an undisclosed sum to handle subscriber management for the channels, means that the BBC channels will be available on all digital platforms. The initial channels will be BBC One and Two, Choice and News 24. They will be followed by BBC Learning and an enhanced text service.

#### SDX ponders 325p offer

SDX Business Systems, the telecom equipment supplier which recently revealed that it had received a bid approach, yesterday announced it was discussing a potential offer which would value the company at 325p per share. The price was less than the market expected for SDX, which is growing quickly by selling sophisti-cated telecom systems to small and medium-sized companies. The shares dropped 3p to 328.5p.

#### Reject bid, says Trafford

TRAFFORD Park Estates yesterday issued a defence document urging shareholders to reject a hostile £146m bid from Dublin-based Green Property, saying it undervalued the company because it did not account for its development programme or land holdings. Green is offering 190p in cash or stock worth 212p a share for Trafford.

	Turnover £	Pre-tax £	EPS	Dividend
Autatt Associates (1)	(-)	0,276m (0.037m)	0.38p (0.08p)	nil
Staint (F)	77.3m (120.7m)	5.4m (-4.82m)	3.5p (-3.7p)	1.4p (1.1p]
Pack Feet (F)	195.5m (9.61m)	8.67m (9.61m) USD-0.977m (-0.6	2.779 (4.100)	

Lillywhites: Stocks a wide range of sports equipment, making it less vulnerable to changes in fashion

# Blacks Leisure in talks on Lillywhites stores

By Peter Thal Larsen

BLACKS Leisure, the fast-growing sports and outdoor retailer. yesterday confirmed that it was in talks with the Portuguese owners of Lillywhites, the famous chain of sports stores.

In a brief statement Blacks said that it had beld talks with Jeronimo Martins, the Portuguese supermarkets group regarding the possible development of Jeronimo Martins' operations in UK sports retail. although it stressed that the talks were "non-exclusive" and exploratory".

stake in Lillywhites, best known for its flagship store in London's Piccadilly Circus. It paid Forte, the hotels group, £28.5m for the stores in 1995.

Analysis said Blacks might be keen to expand Lillywhites. which has 10 stores dotted around the country, by opening concessions in its existing First Sport or Blacks Outdoor formats.

"Lillywhites would he a good name to have in their store portfolio," said Williams de Broe analyst Jeremy

Martins is believed to be Hilditch. "But with strong Lon- fallen away recently, prompting to door, will also start to go naeking a buyer for a majority don brands you have to be care- worries that wearing sports tional in September. ful about pushing them out elsewhere.

> Opening in-store concessions has worked for Hamleys. the toy retailer, allowing it to expand from its flagship store on London's Regent Street.

Lillywhites may also be attractive for its strength in selling sports equipment. Successful sports retailers of recent years such as Blacks and JJB Sports have tended to concentrate on selling clothing - especially football strips - and shoes.

However, demand

gear is no longer considered fashionable.

Lillywhites stocks a wide range of equipment such as tennis rackets, cricket bats, skis and exercise machines, demand for which is less vulnerable to the whims of fashion.

The group has not been without its problems, however, suffering the departure of several top managers in 1996.

Blacks shares firmed lp to 370p. Since the beginning of the year they have slipped from a high of 518p.

#### Name change as Park grows

By Clifford German

PARK FOODS, best known for its door-to-door sales of Christmas hampers and food vouchers, plans to change its name to Park Group as it searches for a new identity and new markets.

It will create 1,000 full or part-time jobs in its home territory of Birkenhead by opening a £2.5m telephone-hased data management centre in September, the chief executive Alastair Kerr said yesterday.

The centre will house the group's marketing and loyalty scheme management husiness, Handling Solutions (HSL). whose management bas been drastically shaken up.

The group's latest attempt at diversification, a home credit service making small loans and collecting payments door

The dispute with Stuart Marks, the founder of HSL, who became a director of Park Foods when the business was acquired in 1993 and was sacked after mounting an unsuccessful huyout plan in 1996, has been settled out of court.

The group's founder, chairman and chief shareholder,

Peter Johnson, will become non-executive in October, handing day-to-day control to Mr Kerr, who joined the group from Virgin Retail last year, in order to spend more time with his other love, struggling Everton Football Club.

But the group's previous attempt to diversify away from its highly seasonal hamper business by marketing a fried potato snack under the brand name Spuddles was largely responsihle for a 30 per cent drop in group profits to £6.67m in the year to 31 March.

The figures were below market forecasts, the unchanged dividend of 2.98p was disappointing and the shares fell a further 2p to 59p yesterday.

Spuddles failed to hreak into the catering market and lost £2.3m in the full year on sales of just £250,000.

A low-fat version that can bee cooked in an oven has been developed for the retail market and Park is talking to Tesco, Sainsbury, Asda and Safeway in the hope of negotiating a supply contract as an alternative to selling the division

The flm cost of restructuring Handling Solutions bas also been charged to profit.

#### Zeneca shares soar on back of merger rumours

By Peter Thai Larsen

SHARES in Zeneca, the pharmaceuticals giant, surged by more than 4 per cent yesterday on speculation that it was likely to link up with Astra, Sweden's

largest drugs group. Astra said yesterday that it was in talks about "restructuring" its American sales joint venpaving the way for a strategic

merger with another company. The deal, likely to be announced next week, could see Astra paying Merck \$15hn (£9bn) for the 50 per cent of the joint venture it does not own. Payments are likely to be linked

to future drug sales and to be spread over several years.

move a hurdle that has prevented other pharmaceuticals companies from linking up with Astra in the past. Under the terms of the 16-year-old deal. Merck has first refusal to sell any Astra product in the key United States market.

In March, Hakan Mogren, Astra's chief executive, pub-

licly named Zeneca, Germany's Bayer, and Schering Plough of the US as attractive potential

Astra's main attraction is the anti-ulcer drug Losec, the world's largest-selling prescription medicine. But patents on the

drug begin to expire next year. Zeneca shares rose by 110p to 2628p yesterday.

#### The agreement would reture with Merck, the US group

BERNIE ECCLESTONE, the head of WHO'S Formula One Holdings, is seeking damages and an injunction against SUING BusinessAge and its editor, Tom Rubython, over the latest issue of the **WHOM** magazine, which features the racing car boss on its cover.

Mr Ecclestone issued a writ via his solicitors Schilling & Lom this week seeking "Damages (including aggravated and exemplary damages) for libel contained on the front cover and on pages 4 and 76 to 82 inclusive of the issue of 'BusinessAge' magazine for June 1998..."

The writ also seeks an injunction restraining Business Age from repeating the words complained of.

A LEGAL dispute has broken out between two of the leading providers of after-dinner speakers in this country. The two parties involved represent speakers ranging from Jack Charlton to John Docherty, from David Frost

to Alan Whicker. Joseph Jones, of Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire, this week issued a writ seeking an injunction and damages against British Speakers Bureau Limited, a company owned by Ren Mowlam, boss of The Celebrity

In 1993 Mr Jones left The Celebri- with Mr Jones.

ty Group and set up on his own, under the name "After Dinner Speakers". Mr Jones says that last year he

heard that Mr Mowlam's company,

British Speakers Bureau (BSB), was running a business titled "After Dinner Speakers Limited". Mr Jones claims Mr Mowlam offered to sell him the "Limited" name for £3,000. A spokesman for Mr

Mowlam says that Mr Mowlam's lawyers, BP Collins of Gerrards Cross, offered to sell the name to Mr Jones but heard nothing from him. Finally this Tuesday Mr Jones's lawyers, Kidd Rapinet, of High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, issued

a writ against "After Dinner Speakers Limited" and "British Speakers Bureau Limited". Mr Jones is seeking an injunction to stop the defendants from "passing off" any of their services as services of the plaintiff. Mr Jones is also seeking damages.

A spokesman for Mr Mowlam said yesterday said that he had no knowledge of Mr Jones's writ. The spokesman added that BSB and Mr Mowlam were not trading under the "After Dinner Speakers Limited" name, but had merely bought it from another company two years ago. Therefore there "really isn't a conflict"

THE Law Society has issued a writ against KPMG, the accountancy firm, over a claim for £8.5m dating back to

The claim of damages for negligence concerns KPMG's role as reporting accountant for law firm Graham Ford, the firm's senior partner, was found to have mishan-

dled £8.5m of clients' money, and was

struck off by the Law Society in The Law Society started legal proceedings against KPMG in 1995, and the accountancy firm was puzzled yesterday as to why the Law Society

had issued a further writ this week. The claim against KPMG is expected to go to trial in about six

Two members of KPMG are also mentioned as defendants in this week's writ, Stephen Cawley and Neil Chapman.

The Law Society's writ says its claim is for "damages for negligence and/or negligent misstatement arising from a report made pursuant to Section 34 of the Solicitors Act 1974 in relation to the firm of Dunford Ford in respect of the period 1 June 1990 to 31 May 1991" and sent to the Law Society on 3 October 1991.

A spokesman for KPMG said yesterday: "This case has been the subject of legal action since 1992 and KPMG has strongly resisted the allegations made against it. It continues to do so."

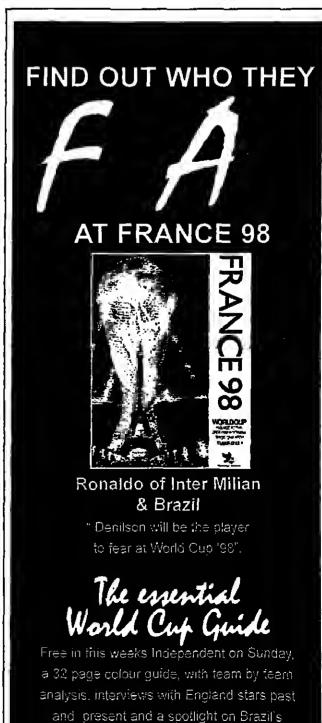
KILLIK & Co, the upmarket private client stockbroker, is suing Sarosh Zaiwalla of solicitors Zaiwalla & Co and Andrew Miloe over ownership of shares in Chesterton International. The disputed shares are current-

ly held on behalf of Mr Milne by Killik & Co's custodian Pershing Securities. Mr Zaiwalla is being represented by Keith Oliver of Peters & Peters, the

solicitor who successfully defended Kevin Maxwell. The writ was issued on behalf of Killik & Co by Linklaters, the City law

THE RECEIVERS of Landhurst Leasing, Arthur Andersen, are suing Liverpool City Council for around £200,000 over rental for coaches and equipment belonging to the crashed company which the council sub-

The writ was issued on behalf of the receivers last month by the law firm Reid Minty.



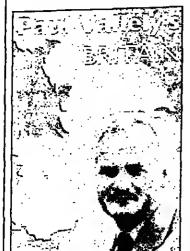
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# A city fighting for its reputation



#### **Manchester:**

The city hosts the Commonwealth Games in 2002, but remains notorious for its levels of violent crime, with gangster families terrorising retailers and night clubs

"BASTARD," screamed the man from the pavement, looking directly at me. "Bastard, bastard!" His face was puce with anger and his lips were flecked with spittle. "Bastard, hastard, basiard!"

I was not sure what I was supposed to have done. I was sitting at a table at a pavement cafe in St Peter's Square having a coffee - and past year.

I decided to ignore him, and turned my eyes studiously to the paper. My assailant lurched across the road to the Cenotaph and started hurling bedraggled poppy wreaths into the air before taking his inexplicable anger elsewhere.

"Don't take it personally," smiled the stranger at the next table. The trouble is that we do take it personally. Or as Alan Haughtoo put it, with an epigrammatic flourish: "We live in a world of anecdotes."

Mr Haughton is the manager of Lifeline, a drugs agency in the city, which works io the dance and rave clubs that are said to be the focuses of the city's violence. A leaked letter from the leader of the city council to the Chief Constable of Greater Manchester Police recently accused the force of failing to combat the "rampant lawlessness" of the protection rackets and the drug dealing in the city's clubland.

Anecdotes are oot much help here. When I asked Ben, a clubber in his late twenties who reckons he has been out on more than 1,000 occasions io the past decade, he replied: "Not at all. I've only seen one incident in that time." Yet when I asked Anna, a 19-year-old time we go into the city we get inreading in the Manchester Evening volved in some kind of violence"-News that crimes of violence in the and told tales of bottles raining city had risen by 50 per cent over the through windows, of dance-floor punch-up., of broken noses, and even of a "friend of a cousin's friend" who, while dancing, had been stabbed with a syringe labelled "Welcome to the HIV club".

If the last tale sounds like an urban myth it still tells us something. The thing about a myth is that it may be based on truth, or it may not be, but it becomes more potent than reality and therefore a new reality in itself. The fear of violence is what worries the council leader, Richard Leese, who can clearly spot a threat to investment a mile off, Manchester is to host the Commonwealth Games in 2002,

"The city has already begun to attract extra investment," he said amid the Victoriana of his oakpanelled Town Hall office, "and that that will step up significantly after the 1998 games. All this 'Britain's most violent city' stuff doesn't exactly help, even if the truth is that you have less chance of being attacked than being hit by a car."



student, she responded: "Every A club in central Manchester. Owners are being encouraged to hire out-of-town bouncers, who are less vulnerable to pressure from local crime families.

The new crime statistics were released for the meeting of the local police authority yesterday. Mr Leese had been on to the Chief Constahle ahead of the meeting for an explanation. "He told me that they had changed the way they calculated the figures to include minor assaults,

which previously had been omitted." Did that entirely account for the increase? "He said he can't answer that question. So I don't know-and it appears that cobody knows whether violent crime in Manchester is going up." Later, the police issued a statement insisting that if you took out the minor incidents of "pushing and slapping" the real in-crease was not 50 per cent but less than 2 per cent.

But if the Evening News insisted that such explanations "will oot wash", there can be oo doubting that beneath the mythology there lies the conflation of three separate phenomena: hard drugs, so-called the same cannot be said for the inleisure drugs and alcohol.

Hard drugs were at the centre of 1990s. Heroin and crack dealing are

but in the notorious inner-city suburbs such as Moss Side. In recent years there has been relative calm in these areas, which is to say that only the occasional shooting is reported. Lower unemployment and the wider availability on prescription of methadone, which makes the addicts dozy, are said to be the cause. drinks. This is reflected in yesterday's statistics. Smackheads tend to involve

themselves in what the police call

"acquisitive crimes" - shoplifting.

borglary and car theft - which,

along with guns offences, are all Today's problems are different. They are centred around the dance and rave clubs, where local crime families, who five years ago were involved in armed robberies, have moved into ecstasy supplying. The kids who take the drug may claim It fills them with universal love, but

dividuals who supply it. Club owners in the city have felt the city's gun wars in the early powerless, since these gamesters of

coocentrated not in the city centre payment or intimidation. "Dealers years ago - is to open in August. can make £12,000 per cluh per night," one club owner told me, "Doormen can share more than £3,000 a night as their cut." Anyone who objects is beaten or shot. The gangsters do not even have to produce their guns. A word is enough to secure access and free food and

It is the spill-over of this culture into the mainstream that has worried the city authorities. Gangsters tried the same tactics at a five-star city-centre hotel receotly. Newly opened restaurants that refused to pay protection have been trashed. One major eating chain recently cancelled its opening. Ram-raids on designer fashion shops in the past six months seemed aimed more at intimidation than theft.

"We've had discussions with the managers at Armani and the others and they are adamant that they are oot paying protection," Richard Leese said. Still, he is relieved that the first phase of the city centre's ten control the bouncers through delayed by the IRA bomb there two tried to break up fights were killed. an answer as any

Moreover, aithough the local police say little, it is evident that they have changed their approach in the weeks since Mr Leese wrote his stinging letter. They have begun to make their presence felt with "disruptive policing". They have begun towing away cars parked illegally outside a bar frequented by gangsters. Officers in body armour have made appearances in clubs, backed up by armed response units outside. Fivehour rolling roadblocks every weekend for the past five weeks have produced exemplary arrests for drugs and firearms offences. Now, clubs are being encouraged to use out-of-town security firms from as far afield as Birmingham, so that doormen are not vulnerable to the

threat "we know where you live". But there is a third problem. Most casual violence oo the streets is fuelled not by drugs but by alcohol. In the past year the city has been shocked by what locals call the Good Samaritan murders, five sepclosed circuit TV system which was wrate cases in which those who

No one is sure of the correct response. The authorities hope that the general police clampdown will have its effect. Mr Leese looks uneasy when asked whether the local liberalisation of the licensing laws might partly be responsible. "No, more liberal laws have generally eased the problem. You don't get the 2am closing time tension."

Others, such as Alan Haughton, are more pragmatic. Lifeline is about to produce a set of "What to" do if ... " leaflets. If what? "If you see someone collapsed in the if you see a guy beating up his gurt friend, if you encounter violence the taxi queue or kebab shop....

What does it tell us about society if self-defence is the only response, I asked. We can't look at 15 this as anthropologists," Mr Haughtoo replied. "We have to live here." and ask 'What works?'" -

So, I was about to riposte, we turn away our eyes. And then I remembered that that was exactly what I had done with the man in St Peters Square. Suddenly it seemed as good +

Room 174 w



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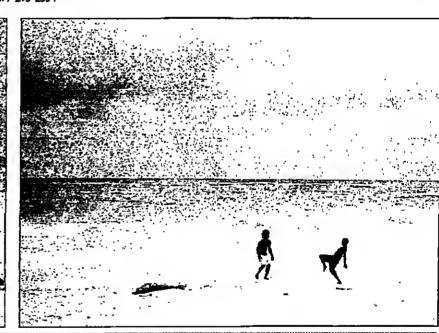
Saturday 6 June 1998



PICTURES OF THE WEEK Football on the beach at Silversands, Barbados. Photographs by Peter Jay. To order a copy of any of these pictures (12x9in) call 0171-293 2534









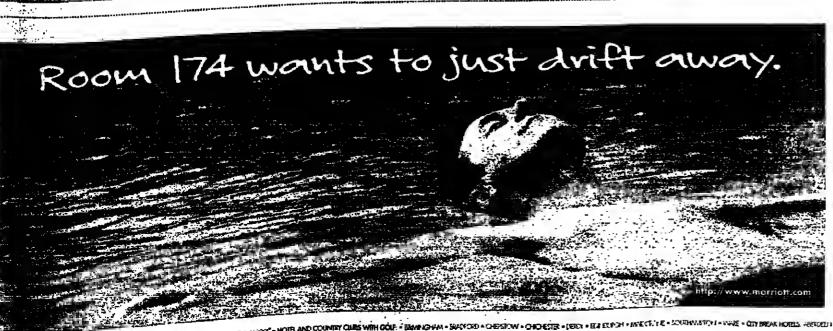




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# Cycle the Red route

History and pedal power combine to good effect in the Rebels and Radicals of the East End cycle tour. Simon Calder takes to the tandem

Beneath a sign that proclaims the Royal London Flospital in Bengali, Chinese and Vietnamese, Duncan Hibberd points towards Joseph Stalin's doss-house. Evening traffic moans along the Mile End Road, past the bicycles snuggling up to the railings, while we learn that the dentist's surgery above Stuart's Cameras was the location for a crucial meeting of the Russian Social Democrat Labour Party in 1907. After mapping out the course of the 20th century with Vladimir Ilych Lenin, Joseph Stalin nipped around the corner to the digs on Fieldgate Street

where he was, literally, slumming it. This event - Duncan's talk, not the founding of the USSR - began the dress rehearsal for one of the most appealing events of National Bike Week: next Tuesday evening's ride, entitled Rebels and Radicals of the East End.

Charlotte Hindle (co-owner and dressed up to the defensive nines in fluorescence. Duncan and his fellow guide from Tower Hamlets Wheelers, Gary Cummins, weren't, "We make a point of not wearing cycling gear like Lycra," said Gary, "We don't think it's a good advertisement for cycling."

The ride, though, most definitely is. It began three years ago as the Wheelers' contribution to the annual celebpolitically astute. On a two-hour, six-mile seized London E2.



pedal around the unchallenging gradients of East London, you discover that the capital's most cosmopolitan quarter was the location for many great social and political advances. And confrontations.

Gary leads us on a half-mile struggle along inadequate cycle lanes blocked by illegally parked cars to St George's, one of the elegant trilogy of East End churches built by Nicholas Hawksmoor. A short-cut through the churchyard provides a verdant interlude. Then you emerge on to Cable Street beneath the potent futurist mural to the barricades huilt by anti-Fascists against Oswald Mosley's hlackshirts in 1936. East London was then, as now, richly multiracial. "Mosley shall not pass", proclaims a banner. "Bar the road to British fascism." And they did.

Onwards, and backwards six centuries. Stepney Green was where East rear-gunner of our tandem) and I were Anglian protesters against the Poll Tax gathered in June, 1381. The Peasants' Revolt ultimately fell victim to treachery, but the rebellioo obliged the monarchy to take seriously the will of the people.

Not all the people of the present-day East End seem charmed by cyclists. Motorists seem unwilling to concede an inch of road space to bicycles, and at least one Tower Hamlets citizen awarded us a vigorous one-finger salute. ration of cycling, and has proved to be On the roads, at least, anarchy has

Next stop on the circuit is the Ragged School Museum, on the north bank of the Grand Union Canal. Thomas John Barnardo, a member of an exiled Spanish family, had no wish to overturn the Establishment. He came to London in 1866 to train first as a physician, then as a missionary, intending to evangelise in China. But he was appailed by the conditions he found in his own backyard. He began preaching on street corners, "tackling hecklers with authority and dodging slops thrown from upstairs windows", according to Gary's colourful commentary. The Ragged School was originally a canal warehouse, before it became a mission for juveniles where

children received food and education.

tion to the actor Ben, who played the Indian leader in the film of his life). His welcome gifts comprised a goat and a pair of trousers, plus a goldfish bowl donated by AA Milne, A hlue plaque celebrates the spiritual sojourn, while bangra music blasts out from what is now a community centre.

East London provided refuge for

20th-century radicals, too. On 12 Sep-

tember, 1931, Mahatma Gandhi moved

to London, settling at Bow at Kingsley

House (really - though he was no rela-

Cycling, besides being a fittingly pacifist way to tour the city, allows you to imbibe a great deal of local history in a short tour. Parking and one-way restrictions render a motoring version

> Where Barnardo battled against poverty -School Museum George's in the East End (left)

the Ragged (above); St

Photographs:

Peter

to tracking down the haunts of rebels. One problem: the political heroes are mostly men, so far. The gender

impractical (at least in theory). Walking

would take twice as long, while public

transport provides no radical solution

imbalance is corrected, at least partially, with a visit to 45 Norman Grove, where Sylvia Pankhurst established a toy factory on principles of humanity rather than profit. But the former Bryant & May match factory is the most striking sorry) memorial of all to social change. In 1888, thousands of match-girls took part in the first strike by unorganised, unskilled labour. Despite the initial reprisals against the women, the event was an important stage in the development of mass trades unionism.

"Britain's last match factory closed down five years ago," says Gary. The handsome Victorian redbrick factory is now known as Bow Quarter, and the BMWs parked outside show that radicalism has been extinguished in favour of luxury housing. Stalin would hate it.

Gary Cummings, co-ordinator for the Tower Hamlets Wheelers, is on 0171-265 9095. To take part in the Rebels and Radicals of the East End tour, turn up at the main entrance of the Royal London Hospital (on Mile End Road, opposite Whitechapel Underground) at 7pm next Tuesday, 9 June. And bring a bike.

Back in the capital, the London Cy-

today, a charity bike ride with a differ-

London's best second-hand clothes

shops, beginning at Mind in Camden (op-

#### SIMON **CALDER**



London to Paris for £62 return on British Airways - excellent value, but what shall we do with all the Sainsbury's orange squash?

The most bizarre travel bargain of the year is on offer until the supermarkets close tonight. If you buy enough of the aforesaid cordial (or, indeed, lemon squash), you qualify for 480 Air Miles under the Sainsbury Reward scheme.

Buy 60 one-litre bottles of the drink at 75p. each. This will cost a total of £45 - less than half the lowest London-Paris fare currently available on BA. You have to add taxes of £17 to both these fares, but a total of £62 to fly between the British and French capitals is excellent value. And you'll still have 30 Air Miles left over, together with a bathful of sticky fruit concentrate.

One of our writers, David Woodworth, first revealed the absurd generosity of some Sainsbury's/Air Miles promotions. He calculated that spending £97 on 14kg of ownlabel coffee could earn enough for a London-Amsterdam flight. (David says he is getting through the coffee apace, which could explain his astonishing productivity at present.)

One of our readers, Richard Madge of a Bexhill, drew my attention to the orange juice anomaly. "Someone at Sainsbury's has got their sums wrong," he says, and I agree.

For British Airways, which owns the Air Miles brand, the scheme is a good way to profit from plane seats that would otherwise be empty. The airline sells Air Miles, for about 10 pence each, to traders who use them to help promote sales of suits or squash.

Collectors then "spend" the miles on BA flights. On the 450-mile round trip from London to Paris, the airline earns £67.50, not a bad return for an otherwise vacant seat.

From your point of view, the art is in buying low and spending high - to minimise the amount you "pay" for each Air Mile, while maximising the value you get when you "spend" them. Anyone foolish enough to fly to Australia using Air Miles would effectively be giving BA £3,000 for the privilege, about six times the going rate were you to buy a ... ticket through a travel agent. On a flight down under, each Air Mile works out to be worth just four pence.

Where you really start to benefit is on short-haul flights, such as the London-Paris trip where each Air Mile is worth 20p. Suppose you oeed to travel only one way: the cheapest method is to buy a return for £91 plus tax, and throw the return half away.

Two secrets of Air Miles: you can use them for one-way trips, and the usual "Saturday night minimum stay" restriction doesn't apply to return journeys. So business travellers, or anyone else needing just a one-way flight to Paris, can increase the value of each Air Mile to more than 40p. And huying the right kind of squash at Sainsbury's could earn you Air Miles for less than 10p each.

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- Table 1

The loss of revenue for British Airways that this could trigger is known in the travel trade, appropriately enough, as dilution - and it's certainly to my taste. See you by the soft drinks shelves this moraing. But be warned: this is such a good deal, there could be a squash."

We get lots of invitations to submit entries for travel-writing awards, and sometimes take them up - witness Harriet O'Brien, editor of the Time Off section, winning the Travelex . award in 1996 for the hest national newspaper travel story. That competition is sponsored by a company running foreign exchange hureaux, whose main interest is in promoting travel in the broadest terms. We are rather more circumspect when holiday companies or tourist boards get involved in country-specific competitions.

The Scottish Thistle Awards for Tourism, for example, are not necessarily concerned with rewarding the best travel story about the country. The judges are looking for someone who has succeeded in "encouraging the reader, viewer or listener to visit Scotland".

When you've written a suitably laudatory story, there's one more before you send it in to the Scottish Tourist Board: "On a separate A4 sheet and in no more than 750 words can you please describe how you feel you have contributed to the promotion of Scotland as a tourism destination." Nothing there about the enlightenment or enterrainment of the reader.

I have nevertheless submitted Boh Carter's excellent tale of touring the wintry Highlands in a 1959 Rover, which appeared in these pages in February. Accompanying it, instead of the requisite 750 words, is a sniffy note saying that the sole concern of this section is the reader, not the travel industry. So we won't win. Sorry, Bob.

The US car hire saga cruises on, with tales of travellers heing charged for upgrades that weren't agreed, the Sussex family whose subcompact turned into a Ford Aerostar, and the Boston rental depot that ran out of cars. More tales of the road next week.

# From rust-heap to ice-cream: Britain by bike

You know that battered old heap of rust On your bike with in the garage, with flat tyres and creaky joints? If that describes your car, then National Bike Week, by leave it at home on Wednesday - National Bike-to-Work Day - and cycle in Cheryl Winspear instead. Conversely, if it describes your

hike, then get it fixed up this weekend. National Bike Week begins today and runs until 14 June. Many events are planned throughout the country, aimed at both beginners and serious riders.

All over the country Doctor Bike "clinics", with stalls manned by stethoscoped "bike doctors", will be willing to help you with any queries or problems you may have. These clinics are funded by the spousors of the entire week, Halfords.

The battle to provide the best rail deal

in Britain this summer continues. Ang-

lia Railways weighs in with the freedom

of Norfolk and Suffolk for £7.50 a day.

You can travel any time at weekends or

after 8.45am during the week in the area

bounded by Sheringham, Thetford,

Great Yarmouth, Felixstowe, Ipswich

and Bury St Edmunds. Accompanying

children travel for £1 each. Unlike

discounts for railcard holders.

A train

A boat

on Saturdays.

Today there should be much jollity when the Sportsmatch Challenge gets under way. At 200 locations around the country, children and adults are able to try out an obstacle course involving ramps, see-saws and other tricky terrain. The idea is to encourage better hikehandling skills and safer cycling, particularly for children. The event is being run through the sponsorship of the

Sport, and a range of cycling-related around Stratford-upon-Avon, covering

Rebels and Radicals of the East End tour Taylor (01789 268821). (above) do not require you to be an especially dedicated cyclist.

To sample some of the Trans-Pennine Trail, the cycle/footpath linking Hull and Liverpool, you could join a "discovery ride" through Cheshire on 14 June, cycling from Lymm near Warrington to Dunham Massey near Altrincham with the Warrington Borough Council's countryside rangers. For more information and booking forms, contact Tim Baker (01925 758195).

In the Midlands on Monday night (8 Department of Culture, Media and June), there is an evening mystery ride

nine miles and finishing at a mystery pub. cling Campaign is planning 10 per cent Many of the organised rides, like the For further information contact Dick more events this year than last. At 11am

> Or, to keep everyone happy, try the ence takes place: a guided tour around Skellingthorpe family ride in Lincolnshire on Wednesday 10 June, a three-miler following a route that has just been opened as part of a plan endeavour to link Skellingthorpe with Lincoln. Details from Sustrans' East Midlands office (01522 788889).

Tomorrow, starting at 10am, the proionships. The event begins in Llandrindod Welis, reputedly the smallest

posite the tube station) and ending at Humana in Shepherd's Bush. And on Tuesday evening, the "Epic Ice-Cream Ride" starts at Enfield Civic Centre at 7m and ends at Marine Ices in Chalk Farm. Lights and a sweet tonth essential. More information on events can be ob-

fessionals show how it is done at the Welsh National Road-Race Champtown in Britain.

tained from the Cycle Touring Club's National Bike Week hotline (01483 419556) or http://www.national-bike-week.org.uk

#### The Ibis (00 33 1 49 19 19 19) has a

Seats across the Atlantic may be scarce

CHECK

this summer, so a new Belgian airline many of these special deals, there are could prove handy. City Bird Airlines (00 322 752 5211) flies from Brussels to Miami, Orlando, Los Angeles, San The ferry service between Dover and Os-Francisco and Las Vegas, at fares well rend has been re-established by Hoverbelow the usual full-fare rates on other airlines. On the weekly service from the speed Fast Ferries (0990 595522). The Belgian capital 10 Las Vegas, for exjourney is twice as quick as conventionample, you pay around £180 each way. al ferries, taking just over two hours each way. Until the end of June, the company Besides the fast ferry to Ostend (see left) is offering a two-for-one day return, cost-Brussels airport is easily accessible ing £4 per person during the week, £5 from several UK airports, or by Eurostar with a change at Brussels Midi.

With prices at many Parisian hotels increasing significantly during the World Cup, one of the cheaper places to stay in Paris could be a hotel in the middle of Charles de Gaulle airport.

rate of 545F (about £57) for three people sharing a room. Two people pay rather more (670F/£70), but this includes breakfast. The Stade de France is 20 minutes away by RER train. After 13 July, room rates fall to 415F

(£43) for up to three people, with a weekend special rate of 320F (£33).

Tequila jelly is one of the items on the menu when Mardi Gras arrives in Bristol next Saturday. The travel specialist Trips Worldwide (0117-987 2626) is staging a Latin America fair at Ashton Court Manor House next Saturday, 13 June. It takes place from noon to 5pm, and most romantic café experience.

costs £1 to get in, and includes talks on the region plus salsa and merengue instruction at a Latin dance workshop. You can use your new-found skills later that evening at a Mardi Gras ball, at the same location from 8pm to 4am. Tickets, price £30, must be booked in advance; the best costume wins a free flight to Cartagena in Colombia.

A drink

Colombian or otherwise, a taste for coffee could win you a trip to one of the great café capitals of Europe. For each of the next four weeks the travel pages of The Independent, in association with the new guide Café Crème Cafés of Europe Guide 1998, will be offering a weekend for two in Venice, Vienna, Paris and Madrid.

Full details of the competition will appear next Saturday; meanwhile, you may wish to begin to reflect on the tastiest coffee, dreamiest cake, best ambience, A week from now ... you can take part in the third annual

Roof of England walks event, based at the Pennine town of Alston on 14 June. Call North Pennines Tourism on 01434 382069 for details of the three routes. which range from four to 20 miles.

A month from now ...

... you will no longer be able to glance through the windows of apartment blocks as your 747 comes in to land at Hong Kong. The new airport at Chek Lap Kok is due to open on 6 July.

A year from now ...

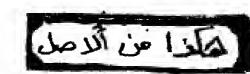
... the Calgary Stampede will be getting under way in Alberta's largest city. The event features parades, a rodeo and a covered wagon race. For details call 001 403 261 0101 or contact the Visit Canada Centre, 62-65 Trafalgar Square, London WC2N 5DY (0891 715000, a premium-rate line).

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Weighing eight tons, they need to consume 550lb of meat a day. But thanks to their razor-sharp teeth, they are among the most o efficient eating machines on the planet. Anna Rockall comes face to face with killer whales

It might have been a scene from Jaws. We water. Of course there were some disapresident and transient. Resident whales been glad to see the back of us, and we were from Heathrow to Vancouver, while BA and sat in the dinghy, bobbing just within sight of the shore as the fins of giant sea creatures sliced through the water only a few feet away. Limbs were kept firmly within the protective bounds of the boat, and diving in for a quick dip was most definitely not recommended.

But these weren't sharks, though the name sounds almost as deadly; we were adrift in a pod of killer whales in the Canadian Pacific. And far from feeling any frisson of terror, our enthusiasm was boundless as the whales leapt heavily out of the water

pointmeots; none of the whales close to us leapt completely clear of the water in the manner of Seaworld-type shows, but that is the pay-off for watching wild rather than trained creatures.

You also get the opportunity to play a great guessing game. You watch where a whale last disappeared into the water. Then you imagine it swimming below the surface, try to estimate the speed and direction it is going in, and then stare hard at a patch of water in the hope that it will emerge right in your line of vision. You hardly ever get for a split second hefore flopping back in it right, but with so many whales swimming

spend their entire lives in a relatively small area, enabling them to be fairly easily found, and eat only salmon. Transient whales are harder to track down, and eat seals as well as salmon. On one occasion, our guide informed us, a seal leapt on to the boat io ao attempt to escape the hunger of a transient. It perched at the front for a few minutes, but when its fear of the whale, who had disappeared, hegan to be replaced by fear of the occupants of the operation. Air Canada has 12 flights a week boat, it slithered back into the water - only to be greeted by the whale's jaws as it rushed

up from its hiding-place in the deep.

The resident pods, which live a few miles from the shore of Vancouver Island, are more about these creatures and so be better able to conserve them. They can be recognised by their fins, which are of varying shapes and sizes, though it takes a trained eye to differentiate them. The pods are made up of 20 to 80 whales. They are led by the oldest female, who may be up to 80 years old, but the males are the larger sex, with fins that are noticeably longer.

Their long lives make them harder to study than most other animals, so despite close observation, much of their behaviour is not fully understood. Breaching, for example, seems expend a lot of energy without any particular purpose. One theory is that they leap out of the water to relieve an itch or shift parasites that may be taking up residence on their skin. The whales are known to go to "rubbing beaches" where they rub their sides and stomachs on the smooth rocks and pebbles. I'd like to think they do it for the sheer fun of it.

Learning about whales and hearing stories from the guide was enjoyable, but we took infinitely more pleasure from admiring the creatures as they breached, puffed, and then disappeared into the icy ocean. If it hadn't been so cold, we would have stayed there for bours, wasting less time taking shaky photographs and spending far longer just appreciating the whales. But we had to get back - leaving them in peace without the noise of engines deafening them and boiler-suited tourists gawping at their every move. They must have

glad that, apart from having to put up with a few boats every day, they were free to roam their territory.

There's a great deal of competition across the Atlantic this summer - but it's mostly between would-be travellers searching for seats. The scheduled airlines flying from the UK to Vancountr are Air Canada (0990 247226) and a British Airways/Canadian Pacific codeshare

Canadian each operate one service per day.

Scheduled fares to Vancouver in June are reasonable: until the end of this month, the BA/Canadian fare through discount agents is below £400 return. In July, this rises to more than £650. Charters from Gatwick on Air Trans.4t cost as little as £237 in June through agents such as Quest Worldwide (0181-546 6000), rising to a summer peak of £567.

Visit Canada Centre, 62-65 Trafalgar Square, London WC2N 5DY (0891 715000)

THE EASIER, RASTER



Vancouver Island Photographs: Planet Earth



coming in to land.

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There were shortcomings. It was not a picture-perfect day - the clouds were low, the winds high, the seas choppy and extremely cold - and there wasn't a toilet within hours. You could hang off the back of the boat, but as we were dressed in thick boiler suits, and the temperatures were subzero, it wasn't a tempting option. We simply crossed our legs and paid attention to the whales.

They were well worth the effort. They made leaps out of the water - an exercise known as "breaching" - and some swam within feet of the boat, surfacing briefly and then disappearing again into the dark

with the gargantuan grace of a jumbo jet around there's usually some activity not too far away.

We were floating in a pool of about 20 whales - a well-documented family resident in the area. The tour operators who take you out to find the whales are not allowed to approach them any closer than 100 yards. But when the boat drivers turn off the engines, more often than not the whales will swim up near you.

The tour groups are based on Vancouver Island, mainly in the city of Victoria. They try to keep track of the whales day by day, and some will even offer a moneyback guarantee of seeing them. Many claim to have a 90 per cent success rate.

There are two main types of killer whale,

vay to take your car.

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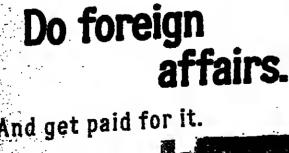
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Photographs: Geriant Lewis (top) and Richard Wayman

For an early summer blast of Gypsy music, exotic food and a bizarre mix of Byzantine and brutalist architecture, Robert Nurden recommends Romania's lively capital

High summer in these parts gets unbearably stuffy, winters are wet and freezing; but now is pleasantly warm. And, if you get there before 22 June, you'll avoid the locals' taunts after they've thrashed Hoddle's hod-carriers: Romania's team of wizards are in England's World Cup qualifying group.

Beam down

Romania's national airline Tarom (0171-224 3693) flies from Heathrow to Bucharest daily, taking three hours. For its lowest fares, the airline refers callers to Tradewings (0171-637 0555), which is quoting £237 return in June. British Airways (0345 222111) flies daily from Gatwick for a fare of £287. A visa on entry costs \$23, demanded in cash.

Get your bearings

Otopeni airport is 10 miles oorth of Bucharest. An express bus (No 783) runs every 15 minutes to the centre and costs

wooden-spired thatches, peasants underground dwellings, carved wooden doorways.

Walk back to the centre. On the way, in Souseana Kiseleff, drop into Europe's mus-7,000 lei (about 50p). Or take a taxi and make sure the meter is working; it will cost £5-£10. In town there's a great metro sys- of the simple rural life. tem (3,000 lei/20p for any return journey); buses and trams are good, too.

Check in

The flashy Athene Palace (00 401 315 1212) with its history of oo-holds-barred spying by guests and staff alike has just opeoed after refurbishment: a double room costs £220. For character and old-world charm, 401 613 1415), set around a leafy courtyard. Doubles here cost about £35. Even smaller and quieter is the Casa Victor (00 401 222 9436) – about £50 for bed and hreakfast.

Go straight for the bizarre Bucharest. To capture the city's weirdness visit an Eighties the dehydrated fountains towards the Palace a bracing beer. of Parliament, the third largest building in the world and the monstrous, 1,100-room creation of Ceausescu in his maddest, final the marble and gold leaf and the 4,500 chan-

lowering above unfinished cultural centres and socialist libraries. I oever knew architecture could make your flesh creep.

Lunch on the run

After all that you'll oeed a beer, so hurry to the oeo-Gothic coolness of the sepulchra Carul cu Bere oo oearby Str Stavropoleos. A hig bowl of hearty ciorba perisoare (meat-ball soup), with bread, will set you back £1.

Head for the superh Village Museum in Herastrau Park where more than 300 old houses from every part of Romania have been reconstructed beside a peaceful lake. Ancieot thatched homes with cabbage patches oo the roofs mingle with stately, wooden-spired churches, peasants' under-

eum of the year 1995, the Museum of the Romanian Peasant, for a minimalist view

Window shopping

Bucharest can oo longer claim to be the Paris of the East" as it was in the Thirties with its stores selling silk, carpets and furs, but a faded elegance can still be seen, particularly in the shops along Calea Victoriei. It's the best street for stylish pâtisseries and here you'll also find a bewildering array of it's hard to beat the Hanul lui Manue (00 folk art antiques from all around the country. The nearby Piata Amzei and Piata Sf Voievozi boast good markets. And the Romanian Peasant Museum sells folk art, cloths and, best value of all, glittering painted eggs.

Your pre-dinner tipple may have to be taken in raucous surroundings - there are few quiet architectural folly - the Centru Civic. Take venues. At Sarpeletu Rosu, Str Eminescu, the metro to Piata Unirii 2 and walk past you can sample Gypsy music while you down

Demure dinner

The Capa Capsa, on Calea Victoriei, is a spayears. You can go in at certain times and see cious, understated restaurant dating from 1852, with white walls and polite, cheery waitdeliers (11,000 were planned). Go to the left- ers. Its musty sophistication contrasts with hand corner of the palace to sense its the perky fare - rich venisoo and wild boar, monstrous immensity - and gape. Wander chunky fish dishes and unashamed lashings back past Piata Unirii 2 to see the rest of of veg, with wines from all over Europe.

the complex and its forest of rusting cranes Sweets come with heaps of cream and cal-

For a grandiose Baroque interior, try the Cercul Militar, almost opposite, whose portions seem big enough to feed an army. Here, typical Romanian food - pork and chickeo stews - is staple fare.

Sunday morning: go to church Religious belief - Orthodox and Catholic -flourishes in modern Romania, perhaps a kind of pent-up spirituality after years of oppression. During church services hundreds are packed in, standing and/or sitting, while often outside there are disabled people and Gypsies in bright clothes begging for alms. At Byzantine churches such as Enei, Doamnei and Stavropoleos there are original 16thcentury frescoes on display.

Romanian food, including sarmale (cabbage leaves stuffed with rice, meat and herbs with sour cream) and mamaliga (polenta with cream) is oo offer, along with pork, chickeo and fish dishes, at Bistro Atheneu, just off Piata Revolutiei. If you time it right, you'll munch to the strains of a Mozart piano sonata played live.

A walk in the park
Luckily Bucharest's coocrete jungle is softened by a multimde of parks and avenoes of plane trees. To the north (take the metro to Aviatorilor) lies Herastrau Park, which, apart from being a great place to relax, houses the Village Museum. Alternatively, head for the shady Cismigiu Gardens, west of the city ceotre. This area is delightful - a place for assignations, feeding the ducks, soft drinks, and games of chess for old men.

Outward bound

Take a bus or train to the pretty village of Soagov to see "Dracula's" grave in, believe it or oot, a monastery chapel set oo an is-land in the middle of a lake. Vlad the Impaler, oo whom Bram Stoker partly based his novel, was murdered in the surrounding woods and the monks, to whom he'd donated vast sums of money, took his body in and buried it. On the way you'll see striking evidence of Ceausescu's systematisatioo programme: apartment blocks built for . hundreds of thousands of Romanians after he'd demolished their villages.

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For further details



Paris for girls - yesterday and today. 'Chic' has become T-shirt and skirt rather than formal elegance Photos; MSI and Howard Barlow

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incles.

7am Paris in the springtime; Paris for lovers; Paris for World Cup fans. No, no, it's Paris pour les filles. Hurray! I'm off to visit my French girlfriend Corinne who is an artist and lives in the 11th arrondissement, not far from the Gare du Nord. Très handy for the Eurostar. Must remember nut to look at the new Stade de France in St Denis and catch this football fever. Berr.

Although the World

Cup kicks off there on

Wednesday, Paris is far

from a laddish city. In

fact it's perfect for a

girls' weekend, writes

Miranda Haines

8am Huh. First of all I have to go to work for 10pm Paris. Taxi to Corinne's. Told l'homme

he can do as he likes this weekend.

#### Saturday

Ham Woke up late and spent long time trying to look like a chic chick (ie very Stench) in a T-shirt and skirt. We walked Loquettishly with sunglasses on the nose to local boulangerie (no one around). As usual bought too many croissants and sat down in a downtrodden hut branché (meaning "plugged in" or trendy) café with a terrasse in the sunshine. Ordered café crème and smoked five cigarettes deciding on our master plan for the day. Noticed that everyone was much more chic than me, even in the 11th arrondissement, so shopping was going to be

a necessity. II.30am Headed for the 5th arrondissement. This is the Knightsbridge of Paris but an area with a lot more charm than the roaring Brompton Road. St Sulpice, St Germain and St Michel are good boundaries to set and every boutique is worth a peek.

11.35am Bought a pair of beautiful sandals for lots of francs. At least the exchange rate is on my side. I swear I will not buy more things. Only looking now.

12.15pm As we were looking at the summer frocks in Agnès B Corinne announced, "You should buy that dress". I looked at this pretty silky slip of a thing and tried to imagine when I might wear it in London. "It's much too smart," I insisted. "Boff," Corinne sighs, not without missing the opportunity to highlight the tragic difference between London and Paris. "I would wear that to go to the supermarché." Touché. Ipm Lunch on Île St Louis in the café that

overlooks the Seine and is opposite the icecream shop where families queue up all day long. We ate a salade parisienne and drank a carafe of house white. All becomes quite hazy in the sun.

The Seine was choppy and sparkling so we felt tempted to organise a bateau-mouche (boat) ride. Naked bodies lay strewn in bathing suits along the paving stones down by the water's edge. A saxophonist blew harsh

blue notes from the Left Bank and in the

bongo drums.

small garden on the promontory beneath the

Pont Neuf two men with bare torsos played

2.30pm (tipsy) Bought the guide Pariscope

for 3 francs in order to look up the boat

times. Decided to embark from the Pont

Neuf (five minutes' walk) at 4pm and chug

up to the Eiffel Tower and back. "The Tour

millennium celebrations and the Seine will be

Eiffel will lay an egg on the eve of the

perfumed, according to my Millennium Rough Guide," I slurred. Corinne didn't believe me. But when I reminded her of the time that Yves St Laurent covered every inch of the bridge in roses, the idea took on a more reasonable resonance.

4pm Bateau-mouche was a brilliant way to see Paris and get a suntan. Can't believe I lived here for three years and never went on one. Corinne said that next time we could

This is a pedestrian bridge where people set up tables and white tablecloths and drink champagne over the Seine to the whine of n violinist, if they choose. I remember that Paris is also about dreams. Midnight Forgot to get a facial. Too late now but am inspired to get one back home because apparently all the Parisian girls have

them as regularly as having their nails done -

Bastille and then dine on the Pont des Arts.

Sunday

ie every other week.

Harn Slept well. Realise that this is huw the Parisians are so good-looking, despite smoking so much (illegal, and unenforceable in public places).

Must remember that beauty sleep is a

Ipm Picnic in the Luxembourg Gardens where children float boats on the lake, watch puppet shows with squeals of delight and swing around and around on a merry-goround that was built in 1880.

Some men practised t'ai chi in the shade and nearby some very tall men swung low playing basket ball, while the rest simply sat and watched.

This is definitely the best Parisian park, no matter what the weather. 5pm Checked in at Gare du Nord and decided to upgrade to first class when I thought of Eric Cantona's philosophical advice about travelling on the Eurostar. For once I agreed with a foothall player - even if he was paid to say it

10pm Back in a London pub, and I

remember that this is a city pour les hommes.

One week later Still haven't had that facial, or a long night's

Restaurant La Muscade, 36 Rue de

Monpensier 75001 Paris (00 33 1 42 97 51 36)

Miranda Haines is the editor of 'Traveller', the magazine for members of the Wexas Travel

# Through the arches of Islam in Paris

A mosque tucked away in the Latin Quarter has become a surprising tourist attraction. Rhiannon Batten took a guided tour

A flock of middle-aged French ladies swarmed around the guide at Paris Musque as if he was the French answer to Daniel O'Donnell. One woman in particular, decked out in a flamboyant scarf and a streak of fuchsia-pink lipstick, seemed determined to monopolise him, out-questioning the other visiting women by several rounds. In fashion terms the guide would surely have gained the approval of Mr O'Donnell. His T-shirt was patterned with swirls of hitter chocolate and fudge. slotting him into the woodwork of the Mosque library like one of the contents of a tray of Terry's Black Magic. The library itself was beautiful, coming as it did in stolen glimpses behind the guide's wafting hands and ever-expanding smile.

It was not difficult to share his enthusiasm for his surroundings. I'd seen guided visits of a mosque advertised and had been intrigued by this rather surprising tourist attraction. It was far from disappointing. Walking in off a grey and dusty street in the Latin Quarter was like entering a different continent. The entrance was dark and gloomy, its corners littered with curious eyes. The gloom did not prepare me, however, for the sudden whiteness and peace of the main courtyard. Similar in style to parts of the Alhambra, it was hig and glaring, the opening to the sky framed by a dark wooden rectangle of ornate carving. From this rectangle, the whiteness trickled down into glinting blue tilework half-way down the

As you walk around the heavy central bowl, more and more of the site slowly comes into view through pretty windows and tempting archways. Through one of these arches was a garden.

The hirds there were probably nothing like as exotic as they sounded but it was difficult not to let the imagination run riot. Set against the dazzling whitewashed walls the greenery seemed almost too

The next arch was nearly obscured by a stack of

#### Walking in off the grey and dusty street in the Latin Quarter was like entering a different continent

shoes strewn across its entrance. Visitors are nut allowed inside the prayer room but nobody seems to mind if you peer in quietly from the outside. The atmosphere inside was yet another contrast to the rest of the huilding, this time being softer and darker. Light trickles in through windows high up on a wall and shines out softly from lamps suspended from the ceiling. The room is red in colour, reflecting off the red of the carpet and turning people praying inside a delicate shade of rose.

In the library, the wooden floor slats squeaked grumpily underfoot. Averting my eyes, I looked up to the ceiling. It was decorated with three enormous flowers, their carved shapes picked out by the light fumbling its way in through small, rectangular windows. Hanging from this display were several incompetent but attractive lights, comically shaped rather like hookahs.

Shuffling out of the mosque past two irate Americans who were incredulous at having had to pay to get in, I made for the mosque café in search of a cup of soothing mint tea.

Entering strong-willed, I walked straight past a cabinet of sweet sticky cakes and headed for the courtyard room, huilt in the same style as the mosque. The other option was an indoor room, decorated like the inside of a Bedouin tent with a touch of prayer room thrown in: cosy, rich red sofas low down on the ground and a carper that seemed to have crawled its way up the walls.

Sipping my glass of mint tea was like indulging in a dream-like therapy, with all the strains of the city being gently soothed out of the system.

Mosquée de Paris, rue Daubenton 5e (Métro Censier-Daubenton). Open 9am-noon and 2pm-6pm, closed Fridays and Muslim holidays. There are often guides, and everywhere is open to visitors except the prayer room. Admission 15F adults, 10F suidents and children. Café de la Mosquée, 39 nue Geoffrey-St-Hilaire, 5e (Métro Censier-Daubenton). Open Mon-Thurs, Sat and Sun 10am-9.30pm

#### RED CHANNEL

France is experiencing its most serious summer of ) discontent since 1968. Air France has cancelled about two flights in three this week because of the pilots strike. Yet this dispute need not be a disaster. To save cash, the airline had already substantially cut back its

flights to the UK over the past few years. Routes such as Heathrow-Nice were abandoned; this one has now returned to the schedules, but is operated by British Midland and is not threatened by the industrial action.

Most flights to France serve Paris, a city to which -

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thanks to Eurostar trains through the Tunnel - there is massive overcapacity. Even with the thousands travelling this weekend to the French capital, there will still be plenty of room: trains seating a total of 18,000 people make the journey every day.

likely to be affected are those who have bought long-haul, discounted tickets on Air France. With the number of cancellations being made by the official World Cup airline trips such as Birmingham to Bogotà or Manchester to Madagascar could be The British travellers most jeopardised.

take a hoat all the way up the Canal St

is rarely seen.

avenues of trees.

Martin, which takes you through a Paris that

9pm Arrived at La Muscade, a restaurant in

the Jardin du Palais Royal. Very pleased to

from the hustle of the streets, with views of

We agreed that the next weekend in Paris

be sitting in such palaoal splendour away

the formal garden and perfectly clipped

we would book tickets to the Opéra at the

#### GREEN CHANNEL

How to cut an environmental dash in France this summer - a sprinkling of useful eco-words and phrases from Lonely Planet's French Phrasebook (£3.99):

la couche d'ozone = ozone les déchets toxiques = toxic l'effet de serre = greenhouse effect un essai nucléaire = nuclear testing le papier recyclé = recycled les phries acides = acid rain

la pollution des eaux = water pollution le pot catalytique = catalytic

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Flights are from Heathrow to Naples by British Midland scheduled seat configured Boeing 737 aircraft every Sunday. We have chosen two splendid hotels - the Hotel Ascol and 4-star Grand Hotel Vesuvio in Sorrento as our base to relax, to enjoy their fine facilities and from where you can explore the beautiful Amalfi

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# Dish of the day

For a fascinating glimpse into state-of-the-art communications technology, Nicola Swanborough took her children to **Earth Station Goonhilly** 

A ring of satellite dishes seems an unlikely act to follow in the footsteps of Cornwall's standing stones. But for all that, Earth Station Goonhilly on the Lizard Peninsula bears testimony to scientific altitudes climbed in the latter half of the 20th century; its upturned dishes, silent and searching, share an nucanny gene with the monolithic structures of earlier civilisations.

Earth Station Goonhilly is the largest satellite station in the world. Its 25 dishes on Goonhilly Downs transmit international news daily from satellites parked 36,000km above the equator. It's where the visionary fiction of Arthur C Clarke becomes fact. With dishes aimed at every continent, aimost all epoch-making events enter and leave Britain via Goonhilly – including this year's World Cup. Global coverage of the Apollo 11 moon landing came courtesy of the Earth Station, as did the Olympics, the Rugby World Cup and the Test Cricket from South Africa. Goonhilly even admits to transmitting the Eurovision Song Contest.

The station handles more than 10 million international phone calls a week. If you have ever called the other side of the world the chances are your voice will have been beamed to its final destination via Goonhilly

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centre is impressively hands-on, interactive and comprehensive. If new technology left you trying to light a Bunsen burner, here's where you can catch up.

Nicola Swanborough took her four children Grace (11), Tom (eight), Florence (six) and Samuel (four).

Nicola: I first visited Goonbilly on a primary school trip in 1970, when there were just a couple of satellite dishes planted in the middle of a field. We'd been to a silage farm en route and the two became intrinsically confused. Nevertheless, the size of the satellite dishes made a lasting impact. "What the hell was that?" I wondered for years after. Now I know. For all that the It's all pretty amazing stuff: the excite- key action at Earth Station Goonhilly is unment of science, the practical application detectable to the human eye, the visitor

process a visual and digestible experience. More important, it makes it fun.

A people-shuttle with an automated voice-over (or was it a ventriloquist bus driver?) takes you through the security perimeter of the station into the heart of Goonhilly, Sci-fi lights and sounds hijack the imagination, and even if the special effects seem a little bit over-dramatic, they're great for the kids. Star Trek meets

Disappointingly, you can't poke a terrestrial nose inside the operations control room where it all really happens. This is for security reasons, although I suspect that the image of earthlings dunking digestive biscuits in their chipped "I love Cornwall" mugs would shatter the sci-fi image. .

Other attractions include a journey through space and time in a small, futuristic theatre, the chance to surf Cornwall

opportunity to operate an antenna for

The centre sells astronaut spacks, but it does a good cup of tea, too. There's an excellent bookstall in the vis-

itor centre - and I wish I had invested in some sort of satellite bible. A day at Goonhilly throws up a lot of follow-on questions, especially from the children, and it it all began. would have been useful to have had some sort of back-up.

Grace: I didn't really expect to enjoy Goonhilly, but it's actually very interesting. It's one of those places that is educational but fun too. We had often driven past the satellite dishes in the car, but it is not until you get close up that you realise how enormous they are. I like the fact that they have named the dishes after characters from the without being able to see the signals them-Arthurian legends; I particularly like selves beaming in from space. There's lots

they are modern, they suit their ancient It is interesting, too, that Goonhilly is

only a couple of miles from Poldhu Cove where the first live transatlantic message was sent in 1901 from Marconi's receiver to a receiver on the coast of Newfoundland. It is nice to visit there, too, and see where Torne I'm really interested in satellites and

space and how information can be beamed across the world, so it was mega cool to see the dishes up close. In fact, though, I think they look best from a distance, especially. with a sunset behind them. They're really beautiful.

I can't say I understood everything: I mean how it all happens so quickly, and

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One of the 25 satellite dishes on Goonhifly Downs, Most epoch-making news enters and leaves Britain from the Earth Station here Photograph: David Swanborough

to do inside the visitor centre and these are some great satellite pictures of differences of England to look at I really emply the Internet Zone, although intends quate crowded.

Location: Goonhilly Downs, Corowall, seven miles from Heiston on the B3293 St Keverne Road. Opening times: 10am-5pm, 1 April to 14

June; 10am-6pm, 15 June to 17 September; 10am-5pm, 18 September to 13 November.

Cost: Adult £3.99, senior citizens and students £2.99, children 10-16 £2.50, children five to nine £1.99, four and under free, family ticket (two adults and two children) £10.
Facilities: visitor centre, family restaurant, outdoor children's area, gift shop, picnic benches.

Tip: when the weather is bad, everyone tends to descend on Goonhilly, making it crowded and almost guaranteeing the prospect of long traffic queues. It really is worth combining it with a beach trip along the Lizard on a sunny day, when you will. be able to appreciate a panoramic view of Goonhilly as well as a close-up tour.

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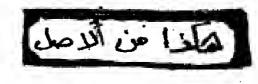
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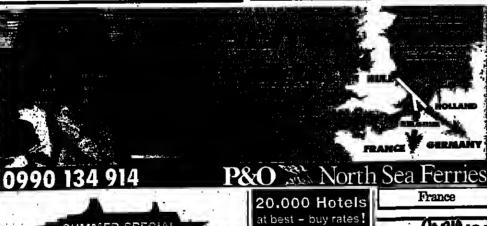
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# Celestial bodies

It sounds pretty simple: you strap yourself in, pull the starter cord and zoom skywards. But that's not all there is to flying a microlight, as Eric Kendali finds out

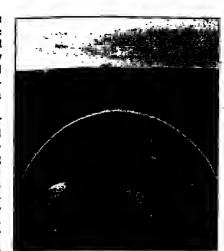
Microlights: small planes, almost, if you take the "glass is always half full" attitude to life; motorised bang-gliders if you tend to see it as half empty. For sceptics, the very name gives unwelcome clues - micro and light, just when you wanted big and reassuringly hefty. I always thought 747 had a better ring to it when taking to the skies.

But if you can put all that out of your mind, try strapping yourself into one and pulling the starter cord. The sheer sensation of zooming skywards in something smaller (apart from the wings) than a hatebback is unforgettable and keeps people coming back for more. The ludicrous engine on the back, with its dinky propeller, just adds to the fun; there's a definite sense of defying both the laws of physics and the odds. But a microlight's greatest appeal, in the cold light of your bank balance, is that it's the most economical way to experience powered flight.

Trying microlighting for the first time is certainly good value, easy and inspiring with an instructor. There's a choice between two main categories of machine: a flexwing, which looks like a hang-glider plus engine and is sometimes described as in aerial motorbike - you're exposed to the elements and control the craft by shifting your weight; and the fixed wing, sometimes known as 3-axis, which refers to the planelike control system. It also looks like a plane, with its real wings and enclosed cockpit, and flying one is similar to flying a light aircraft.

In fact the CFM Shadow I clambered into looked enough of a flying machine to put me completely at my ease until its owner assured me - without prompting that this particular model can't be put in a spin, can glide two-and-a-half miles for every thousand feet of elevation (in the event of engine failure) and has never been involved in a fatality. Splendid. Not baving considered any of these impossibilities up to that point, I now had something to think about as we taxied to the runway. with control-tower gobbledegook stuttering in my ears.

Sitting up front under the clear dome





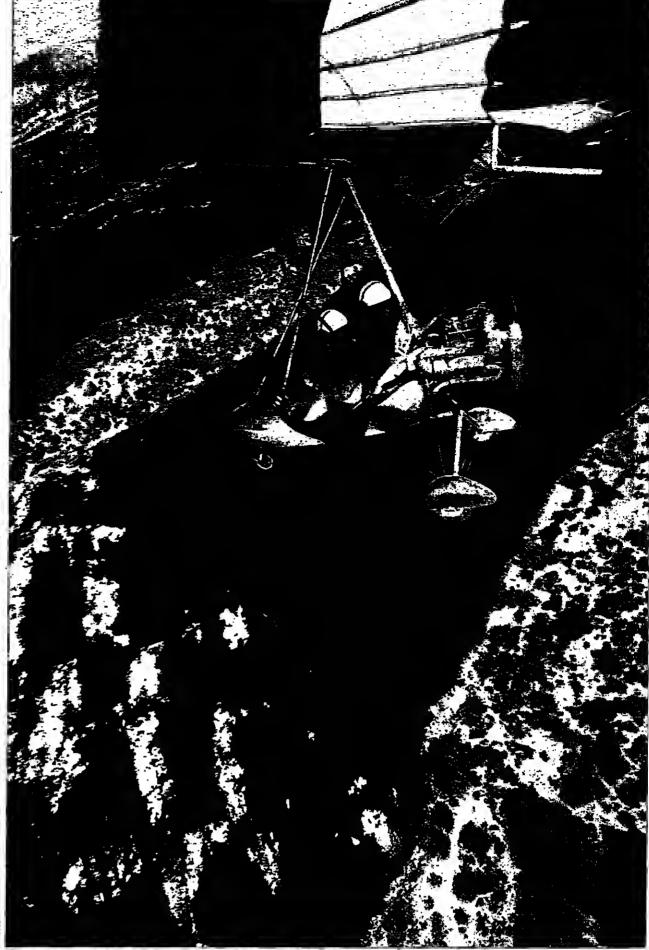
of the cockpit, well forward of the wings, you get a good view which leaves little to the imagination as you take off in a matter of yards. But the controls look the business, all new and shiny and surprisingly complicated, which is encouraging as long

as you don't have to fly the thing. "If you'd like to have a go, now that we're airborne ..." crackled the instructor's voice in the headset. With my right hand on the joystick, left hand on the throttle. feet on the rudder pedals, and eyes on several different instruments and the horizon simultaneously, I tried not to think about the thousands of feet of nothing below me.

Gentle manipulation of the controls produces a comfortably progressive response and makes you feel the whole thing is quite natural. Only the yawing effect of the rudder doesn't feel quite right if you've never tried it before, and is nowhere near as exhilarating as simply using the joystick to bank the craft over and sweep round in tight circles. Tilting the nose down naturally increases air speed hut the most impressive effect is when you pile on the power, pull back the joystick and climb, steep and fast. It may have looked a long way down to start with, but now everything's even more distant; time, once again, to concentrate on those dials, while keeping a look out for other traffic, which is rule number one in the air.

Coming back to base is was as smooth as take-off, mainly due to the fact that my hands and feet were nowhere near the dual controls. But there was a sting in the tail, as the lightest of touch-downs was followed by the roar of the engine and a surge of acceleration as we wheelied off the runway with the nose in the air - a high-speed taxi manoeuvre which is almost as good as the flight itself and a reminder, if you need it, that whatever you're flying in you should never unfasten your seat belt until you've come to a complete standstill.

Thanks to Deepak Mahajan, microlight flying instructor (0181-325-0197) who teaches in the London and South-east region, and CFM Aircraft (01728 832353).



There are two categories of microlight - the flexiwing, above, and the fixed wing, below and left Photographs: James Wells/Tony Stone images (main picture); Penny Kendall; Deepak Mahajan

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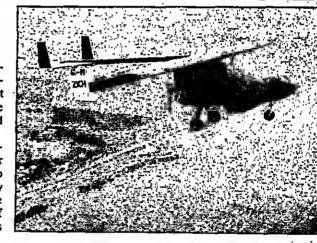
MICRO MANOEUVRES

The cost of microlighting is, of course, relative. For most people, this kind of money spent on pure fun is every bit as shockof flying an aeroplane, every step of the way - the price of the machine, above all, and running costs such as fuel, storage and the use of airfields.

Flexwing microlights cost from a few thousand pounds second hand, whereas the state-of-the-art CFM Shadow two-seater fixed-wing microlight is around £22,000 new. Even this is cheap when compared to light aircraft; syndicates are a common way of overcoming the financial obstacles of ownership, while the speed with which you can learn to fly - around 25 hours of instruction - means the cost of qualifying for a private pilot's licence can be less than £2,000.

As well as value for money, both types of microlight give more flying sensation than bigger planes, though capacity isn't great - they're two-scaters at most, by definition; it's not a practical means of transport under normal circumstances and is limited to flying in good visibility. For purely recreational flying, the advantage they have over gliders, hang-gliders and paragliders is that they take off under their own power and are less dependent on weather conditions and specific sites from which to fly.

Microlighting has come a long way from the early, experi-



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mental days when they really did just attach motors to hanggliders. As well as safety and aeronautical improvements, reduction of engine noise has been, and continues to be, a vital pub-

lic relations exercise for the sport. Full details about how and where to learn to fly are available from the British Microlight Aircraft Association (01869 338888; http://www.avnet.co.uk/bmaa/bmaa.htm). Schools operate all over the UK; despite the varied weather, these are good places to learn, with the highest regulatory standards in

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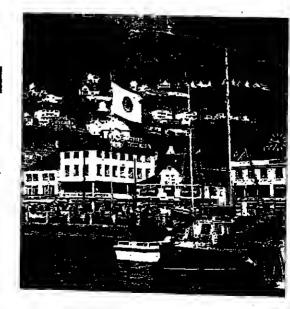
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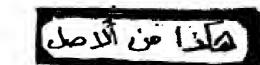
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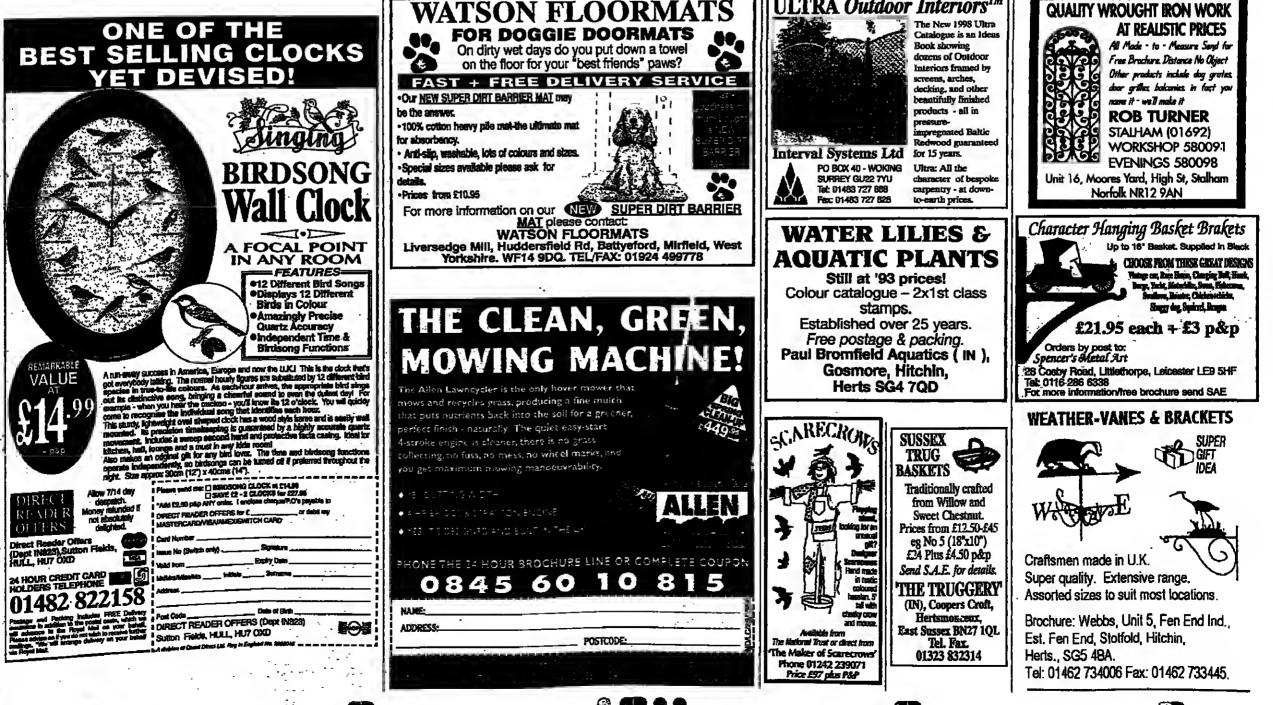
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# Duavers in the borders

A large, historic garden can be a millstone as well as a blessing. At How Caple Court they have an operatic answer - Kirsty Fergusson talks to a family for whom music is the food of finance

One of the nicest things our latitude has to offer at this time of year is the trade in roses popular with the opera proved so successful that the lingering dusk. (Lingering midges, it has to be said, are not such a joy.) Idling in a garden on a summer evening, glass of wine in hand, the scent of roses and lilies on the cooling air and the traditional musical accompaniment of hirdsong, insect activity and the distant whine of a lone strimmer working over-time, has to be one of the great plea-garden as soon as possible. "Thanks sures of life. But for the private owners of large gardens of historical importance, these tranquil evenings are paying for itself," she says. Not bad more likely to be spent grappling with schemes to finance the restoration (both in terms of planting and building) and to maintain their rose-scented acres, than in sybaritic idleness.

fordshire, for three generations mem- Brian, do a fantastic joh: coming in bers of the Lee family have been applying themselves to restoring and opera and jazz." funding their gardens. Although the house is medieval in origin, the gardens were laid out in the early years of this century by the present owner's grandfather-in-law, Lennox Lee. The of opera with grubby toil: last year's look is distinctly Edwardian: clipped yew hedges frame a series of stone terraces, dripping with old roses and campanula; in the Florentine sunken gar-taken over the organisation of the rills; and a pergola hung with old roses curls around a pool, fed by run-off both great lovers of opera and jazz, water from the arable farmland above elaborate engineering that once sup- by their own enthusiasm as well as by evening, too - midges permitting. plied water to a staircase waterfall talk (and occasional evidence) of awaits restoration. It won't have to wait Britain's "new Mediterranean cli- The gardens at How Caple Court, much longer, though, according to mate", they took the plunge and Vanessa Lee (daughter-in-law of How staged their first garden opera - Don Caple's present owner, Hilda Lee) Giovanni - on the old grass tennis children £1.25. 'La Traviata' is staged who has just started up a specialist plant nursery and shop in the garden.

Edwardians: 'Kiftsgate', 'Seagull' and 'Ramhling Rector', which may all be been in the gardens to good advantage. It also sells acers, fruit trees and unusual herbaceous plants. At present, while the nursery is young, the stock is bought in, but Vanessa is keen to the nursery, the tea shop and the entrance money, the garden is now going for a garden which, just over 20 vears ago, had been almost entirely

"We also work extremely hard," At How Caple Court, which stands adds Vanessa, speaking for the family as whole. "We're always here, and Traviata. preceded by an evening of high above the River Wye in Here- our two gardeners, Howard and at weekends too, and helping with the

The annual outdoor opera in the garden plays its part in the upkeep and restoration, too. There is a pleasing resolution to the apparent incongruity production of Madam Butterfly paid for who were here the night before, the Vanessa's sister-in-law, Georgie, has

Peter and his Austrian wife Hilda. had first conceived the idea of music

THE INCREDIBLE BUTTON RADIO

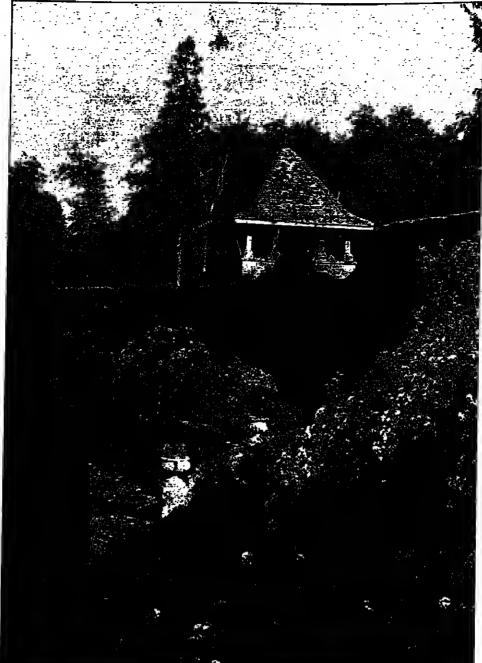
formula has been repeated annually, to growing audiences.

Last year's production of Madam Butterfly, which attracted more than 700 people, saw rain fall for the first time: "The cast disappeared for a few minutes and came back wearing cagoules," laughs Georgie. "And the audience put up their umbrellas-like coloured parasols. No one got up and left. Talk about mad dogs and Englishmen ..." Her partner, David Newall, is a relief co-ordinator for disaster areas, "which would be useful funded by the sale of Christmas trees. if the weather turned absolutely awful," she notes wryly.

jazz with the singer Stacey Kent. Vanessa describes the difference between the Friday jazz evenings and the Saturday opera with some amusement: "On Friday everyone's talking and drinking during the music," she says, "and dancing, too; there's a really lively atmosphere. On Saturdays, although lots of people come much-needed cement-mixer. atmosphere is rapt and attentive."

Well-maintained historic gardens with an interesting future as well as den a Virginia-creeper-covered loggia music at How Caple since Georgie's an important past in private owner-overlooks a format crossing of deep father, Peter Lee, died last year. days; it is rare to come across a family who can turn a garden around, cover the costs and enjoy something the garden. Meanwhile, a piece of in the garden five years ago. Fuelled of the sybaritic life on a summer

> near Ross-on-Wve (01989 740 626) are open daily, 9am-5pm - adults £2.50, courts that lie in a sort of natural audi- on 12 and 13 June, tickets from £12 on torium below the house. The weather Friday and £22 on Saturday.



The gardens at How Caple Court, laid out in the early years of this century

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#### WEEKEND WORK

 There is still time to indulge in some instant scene-shifting in the garden, more difficult later on when the soil gets drier. If your hosta offends you, pluck it out and plant it elsewhere. Take out a good spade's width of soil all round any plant that you move, and, however damp the ground, water it well when you have transplanted it.

I have a small patch of instant plants in a corner of the garden for just this purpose. When there is a gap, I can go down and choose a victim for transportation. Pansies and violas are useful for this. If you keep a good stock of mixed colours, there is usually something to fill a hole where perhaps early spring hulbs

have left a space.

Some of the early brooms, such as the lemon-flowered Cytisus praecox, have already finished flowering. Trim the soft, young shoots with shears to keep the bush compact. Genista can he treated likewise.

• Prune mahonia if it is getting leggy

by cutting one or two of the tallest stems by half.

• There is still time to sow fastgrowing annuals outside. Try comflowers or Virginian stocks. The old cottage garden plant, sweet mignonette, will also fill gaps quickly. Soak the ground if it is dry, scatter the seed on top, then sift Levington compost thinly over the seeds.

• Be generous in planting up windowboxes. To succeed, they need to be lush. Try two different kinds of yellow pansy with yellow-spotted tolmeia and lime-green helichrysum for hulk. Or try using dark bronze bugle with pink verbenas, lime helichrysum and deep pink husy

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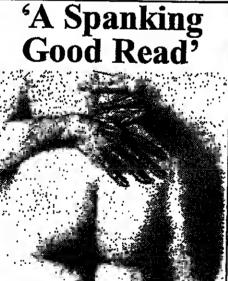
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I haven't got what it takes to be a harlot ... Glenda Cooper, The Independent, 11 May 1998

Recently broadsheet newspapers have been examining a rather different kind of journal which has just gone on sale in cortain selected newsagents and bookshops: The Erotic Review. It has proved so popular that, within a few days, Waterstone's had reordered and the Review had to reprint.

Their correspondents speak about the spicy writing - by Contributors such as Auberon Waugh, Michael Bywater, Maria Alvarez and Barry Humphries - and explicit illustrations, some of which are 'searingly crotic'. The May/June issue is out now. Bi-monthly and expanded for the first time. As a special offer to Independent readers we invite you to subscribe to the next three issues of The Erntic Review for just £5.00 including (discreet) p&p and receive this issue free.

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Wildlife returns

Shropshire's peat lands, once dug for commercial

gain, are now a bustling haven, writes Malcolm Smith

to the bog

Standing in the middle of Fenn's Moss on the Shropshire/Welsh

border, with cotton sedge wafting

white in the evening breeze, teal

insects flitting across a sponge of red

could have ended up in Growbags.

May 1991, to manage the Moss as a

National Nature Reserve (NNR) for

the Countryside Council for Wales

and English Nature, 350 acres were

being mechanically cut to harvest

borticultural peat. The company

concerned had obtained planning

consent to dig the black lifeblood out

of this wetland and had rented a further 300 acres that they could have

exploited later. A devastating net-

work of peat-cutting ditches was

rainwater, killing its animal and

the falling water table. It went

across the Moss like this almost as

plant life at the same time.

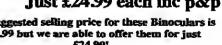
rapidly draining the Moss of its vital

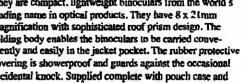
That is no exaggeration. When Dr Joan Daniels was first employed, in

flighting on to pools and blue dragonflies and a myriad of other

and yellow bog mosses, it's incredible to think that all of this

tbat







Parkland red deer are still shot in the open - but for how much longer?

# Anyone for antler pie?

Last week, in the splendour of the Sculpture Gallery at Woburn Abbey, 70 deer farmers and park keepers assembled to discuss the baffling intricacies of the venison trade. Rough country clothes looked slightly out of place against the crimson walls; yet the wider setting was appropriate, for outside the windows lay Woburn's own 3,000-acre deer park, one of the finest in

England, with 11 species on view. The conference was called by the British Deer Farmers' Association (BDFA), and its theme was "Park venison - an undervalued resource?" For various reasons, farmers can get a much higher price for their meat than park keepers can, and the BDFA was urg- an excellent red meat, lean and healthy,

ing the park men to produce better carcasses. principally from two sources, wild deer, and the herds in parks surrounding country houses. Then in 1970 the first farm was started at Glensaugh, in Kincardineshire, with wild red deer driven into enclosures off the bill. Because the calves were picked up and bot-sumption increasing rapidly. tle fed, they became completely tame, and

could be managed like sheep or cattle. The success of this new form of husbandry led to a rapid proliferation of farms and a sharp demand for stock. At its zenith, in the Eighties, the BDFA had 700 members, and a single red deer hind could fetch £1,000. Then the bubble hurst. People who had rushed in, scenting quick fortunes, opted out when they realised that a long. hard slog lay ahead, and today the Assocwhen people were scared off beef. It has strongly into the equation. Among super-

Now that venison has become a popular lean meat, what is the most economic, humane way to manage the deer? Duff Hart-Davis investigates

iation has only 200 members. These, how-now fallen hack to about 60p, only a third ever, are what their vice-chairman John of the farmed price. Fletcher calls "serious enthusiasts", and their mood is optimistic.

their herds that selling venison seemed a secondary consideration; but gradually farmed venison won itself a reputation as whose quality could be guaranteed because Until about 30 years ago, venison came it had been properly handled and came from young animals slaughtered with minimal stress. For nearly two decades producers were able to sell whole carcasses at £1.35 per pound, and in the past two years the price has been steady at £1.80, with con-

> Wild venison, meanwhile, has retained a cachet that no tame product can match; yet over the past few years its price has fluctuated wildly, from a low of 30p per pound after the collapse of Communism, when harriers in Europe came down and a flood of East German and Polish meat swamped West Germany - traditionally the most voracious buyer of deer from the Scottish Highlands - to a high of £2 during the BSE crisis.

Several factors militate against wild producers getting better money. One is that deer At first farmers were so busy building are often shot at long range, or in bad light, or by amateurs, so that the rifle bullet extensively damages the carcass; another - particularly in the Scottish Highlands - is that most estates wait till stags are mature before culling them, and beasts of 10 or 12 are liable to be as tough as old boots. Landowners cannot even claim that wild venison is organic, because they do not know for sure what the wide-ranging deer have fed on.

Occupying the middle ground, between wilderness and domesticity, are the deer parks. In contrast with farmed deer (which are tame enough to he corralled, and are dispatched on the premises with a humane killer or sent by lorry to a slaughterhouse) most park deer are still shot in the open. The aim, either way, is to minimise stress, both for humane reasons and because anxiety increases the amount of lactic acid in muscle, making meat tough; but controversy rages about which method is best.

Not only that: human sensitivities come

market chains, Tesco and Waitrose refuse to handle deer shot in the open, but Safeway sells wild venison, and Sainsbury's is also a declared believer in the merits of field

At last week's meeting, members of the Association revealed that, because of their own success in marketing high-quality venison, they cannot now satisfy the demand, and they challenged the park keepers to raise standards of carcass production to match their own. But the representative from the park at Chatsworth cried out, "We have a moral duty not to let sanitisation rule!" and one of the most fluent papers came from Blue I homas, a freciance ocer manager, who stuck up for traditional methods, pointing out that in most parks policy is strongly influenced by aesthetic considerations. Owners, he said, like to see plenty of red stags or fallow bucks with good antlers - more than make ideal breeding ratios - and they do not want their rolling acres criss-crossed by unsightly internal fences or pens.

If the symposium produced no dramatic new initiatives, it did set everyone talking, and participants went away with as many ideas in their heads as the astonishing red stags at Wohurn carry points on their antlers. In the Highlands a 12-pointer is known as a Royal, a 14-pointer (exceedingly rare) as an Imperial. At Woburn stags grow that many points at two years old. and the park's record beast, Berry End,

"When I first saw the Moss, it was like a desert, there had been so much drainage and peat cutting," recalls Joan Daniels. "A myriad of drains had been opened to take the water away. Every 11 yards of bare, stacked peat had a two-yard strip of vegetation left high and dry above

far as you could see." Not now. This huge Moss -Fenn's, Whixall, Bertisfield, Wern and Cadney Mosses, to give the full local title - is a peatland success story. Instead of ending up in the potting shed to grow geraniums, the peat bereabouts will stay where na-

All of the remaining Moss (it once covered perhaps 5,000 acres), plus some marginal land draining on to it, is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest, and extends to 2,387 acres. Of this, 1,421 acres is NNR, while the Shropshire Wildlife Trust has around 80 acres on Wem Moss. The rest of the site is privately owned, though some of it has protective management agreements. The future of the hulk of the NNR was recently secured for the long term when the Countryside Council for Wales announced that it had bought

a 99-year lease on the land. Since Joan Daniels has been there, her team of four estate workers (all of whom, ironically, previously worked for the peat-cutting company) supplemented by gangs of volunteers, have been damming the vast number of drains - usually by plugging them with peat - and clearing much of the hirch scrub that had grown up under the artificially drier conditions.

A multitude of bog mosses, cotton sedge and much rarer plants such as the pale-pink-flowered rosemary and the scimitar-leafed, yellow-flowering bog asphodel have burgeoned as water levels have naturally re-wetted the formerly arid peat, rising by as much as 6ft.

With the return of the native peatland plants bave come the wetland insects, no fewer than 1,700 different species of them. Among the special residents are the orangebrown large heath hutterfly, a spectacular dragonfly (the rarest of several dragonfly species here) called the white-faced darter, and the raft spider, a hunter that sits on floating water plants. Birds, too, are on the up. The

numbers of breeding pairs of curlew, lapwing, skylark and meadow pipit have all increased because they can now utilise more of the Moss. In winter, it's again full of wildfowl and waders - mallard, teal, snipe. New species such as spotted redshank are visiting, while uncommon hirds of prey such as the hobby (a falcon) and marsh harrier are starting to check out the site's credentials. In the turnaround from peat ex-

ploitation to peat conservation, the five centuries or so of human use of the Mosses hasn't been forgotten. Remains of six peat processing works, including the only on-site British example of a diesel engine powering peat presses, are preserved for posterity to make the historic link between the wetland and its past exploitation. There are even re-

Instead of ending up in the potting shed to grow geraniums, the peat hereabouts will stay where nature intended it to

mains to be found of larger-scale conflicts. The Mosses were used in both world wars for rifle ranges and in the Second World War as a practice bombing range, and as part of an elaborate decoy site to distract German bombers away from Liverpool. In the event, Liverpool suffered appallingly but the Mosses got away without being ignited.

Surrounded by intensive, flat farmland with dairy and beef cattle. crops such as maize and oilseed rape, and by woodland, Fenn's Moss is something of an enigma. It is virtually invisible from every direction and, until you are out in the middle of the place, it is difficult to comprehend that such a large wetland - at least by British standards - is being re-created in the midst of some of the most intensively farmed low-

This type of wetland is now all too rare. Most has been drained and converted to farmland, or dug up to enrich millions of gardens at the expense of the plants it should naturally nurture. There are perhaps 25,000 acres left in Britain (only a 20th of what there was in 1850), and Fenn's Moss comprises about 13 per cent of it. Not only that, but it is the third largest example of this type of wet-land remaining in Britain.

To visit Fenn's Moss you need a permit from the site manager, for safety reasons. Or join one of the free guided walks on the site, on the last Sundays in June and July. Details from Dr Joan Daniels, English Nature, Manor House, Moss Lane. Whixall, Shropshire (01948 880 362)

#### NATURE NOTE

Not before time, landowners in the Midlands have launched a mass attack on that noxious weed ragwort, which grows strongly on poor soil, and most noticeably on motorway embankments. While alive it is not much of a threat; it has a rather harsh smell, and is not attractive to herbivores. But once it is cut and wilting it hecomes both palatable and highly toxic to cattle, sheep and horses, causing irreversible liver damage in any animal that cats a few pounds of it.

Ragwort has taken such a grip in Cheshire, Staffordshire and Shropshire that members of the Country Landowners' Association have started a campaign against it under the slogan "Rout Ragwort '98", supported by the Highways Agency, English Nature and various county councils. The weed is by no means easy to cradicate, for a single plant can produce 150,000 seeds, which are distributed by the wind and can lie dormant in



the soil for up to 20 years before they germinate. Young plants can be

knocked out with herhicides, but spraying is liable to exterminate desirable wild flowers as well, and fields treated with weedkillers cannot be used for grazing for several weeks. Cutting is

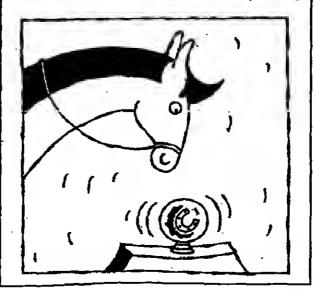
useless, because the ragwort's roots just grow again more strongly. The best answer is the most laborious - to pull or dig plants out one by one, roots and all, and then to hum every scrap:

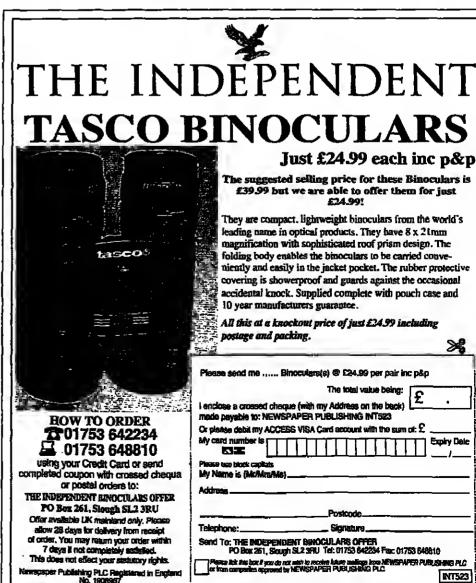
### What's on this weekend

You can huy Crown Derby, a horse, or a vision of the future, this weekend at Appleby-in-Westmorland, a small town lying in the Eden valley between the Lake District and the Pennines. The Appleby Horse Fair is the higgest annual gathering of the Romany people, who travel here from all over the country in an assortment of vehicles, including the beautifully painted horse-drawn vardos. The right to hold the fair, which takes place on Gallows' Hill, was established by royal charter in 1685.

The Appleby Horse Fair runs until 10 June, with the main horse-trading day on Wednesday, 10 June

Sally Kindberg





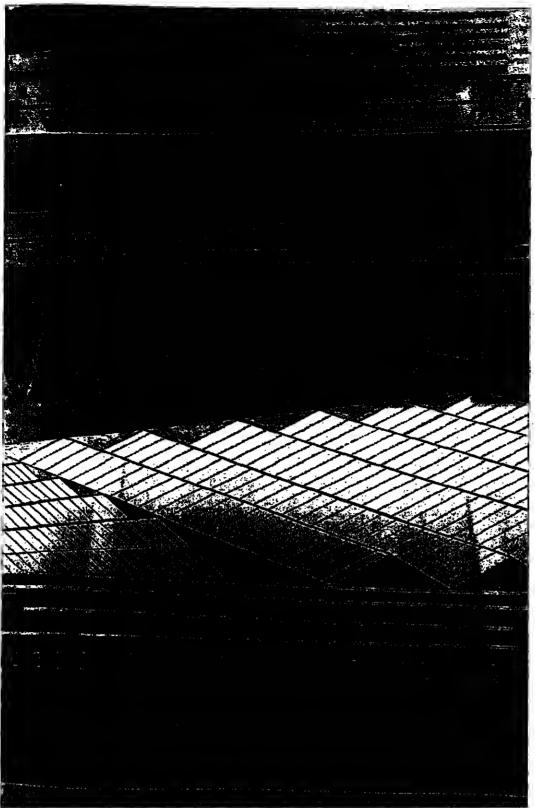
Colour and light are the most important aspects of Sasha : Ward's opaque art. Claire Gervat meets a master of abstractions

Sasha Ward knew her aim in life from an early age. 'It always surprises people, but I decided when I was it school that I wanted to do stained glass." Or rather, strictly speaking, not stained glass, since she has adapted the technique to modern building methods. "I ry to keep the idea and the feeling of colour, light and beauty, but I use ordinary window glass and then to things to it, such as etching or sandblasting, then land-painting or screen-printing with transparent namel." The effect is spectacular, more like a glass painting than painted glass.

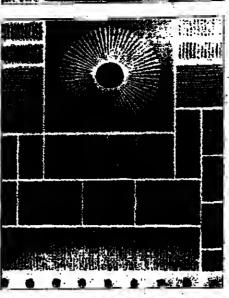
She has a long list of private and public works to her credit. In Leeds General Infirmary, for instance, her colourful glass piece, more than 20ft icross, is set in the lobby ceiling. "I've done a lot or hospitals recently - but I like creating pieces for nouses and people as well."

Many of ber private commissions have come from people who have seen her work by chance. For her he first step is to visit the clients at home. "I have lone commissions through the post, but I wanted o work in and for huildings. It's important for me to make sure the window fits in with the whole place."

The key elements to discuss are the colours and echnicalities, such as how much light needs to come hrough the glass. If it's intended to hide a borrible /iew, for instance, it may have to be almost opaque. sasha comments: "I've learnt a lot about the effects I can get with stripes or dots, sandblasting or tex-.ure. It's often those sort of abstract qualities that talk about with people, and only then whether there









Sasha Ward's windows - at the Sheriff's Court, Edinburgh (far left); the Corn Exchange, Newbury (top left); Frimley Park Hospital (middle left); and Popley Community Centre

is something like a theme - as long as I'm allowed

to twist it my own way."
For her preliminary drawings she often works in watercolour, which makes perfect sense when you see the finished glass with its washes of colour built up in layers. It's also a clue to a wider artistic education. "I chose my first college because I could do stained glass there. But then I thought, 'I want to do fine art', because the important thing for me ina way was the colour, imagery and interesting ideas. So I did a fine art degree and then went back to do

glass at the Royal College of Art."

For domestic-sized pieces, Sasha charges £200 per square foot, a price she admits hasn't changed in 10 years. Larger works cost less per foot as there's proportionately less design time. The whole commissioning process takes about two months. Sasha has the nous to realise that people who have spent several hundred pounds on a work of art may not want to leave it behind when they move, so she's devised a special wire hanging system, too.

She is currently rebuilding her studio. "It's leaking, and I've decided it's cheaper to knock it down. I'll be able to have my own massive kiln there, and do really large pieces. I'm looking forward to it, because I still like the 'hands-on' bit more than doing designs for other people to make np."

She also has a continuing relationship with the Russell-Cotes Art Gallery and Museum in Bournemouth, which has old stained glass. "The next one is a ceiling, which is going to have water trick-ling on the outside over the textured glass."

As for the public reaction to her larger works: "If you produce a painting of nothing, people tend to say, 'that's nothing'. But if it's glass of nothing, they seem to think that's fine. And if they can't work . out what it is, it doesn't worry them."

Sasha Ward is at 19 Salisbury Road, Marlborough, Wiltshire SN8 4AD (01672 515638).

### GAMES

#### WHEN IS A PUZZLE NOT A PUZZLE? CHRIS MASLANKA PONDERS THE NATURE OF PERPLEXITY

When asked to present a programme called Puzzle Panel on Radio 4, my thoughts turned to the tricky question of what a puzzle really is. Well, perhaps knowing what a puzzle isn't will enable me to creep up on the answer. Puzzles are not quizzes. The term 'quiz" is best reserved for those questions whose appeal is to facts, particularly to arbitrary ooes. The delight in answering:

QI: Who is the richest member of Donald Duck's family?

esides in the bravado of claiming acquaintance with such useless knowledge combined with surprise at reing able to recall it. Some quiz questions, such as:

Q2: Which animal produces the biggest egg? rom puzzles. Compare:

Q3: Which of the musketeers were the oiggest hat?

And some facts seem intrinsically fascinating. Through the gloom of the ignorance of what we hught to know, they shine out like beacons,

exceptions more interesting than any rule. Of course, if such questions turned up on the national curriculum, they would lose their attraction. The trivial in Trivial Pursuit tips us the wink: it is fun pecause it doesn't matter.

Puzzles are not about remembering particular facts, oot even fascinating ones. Engaging trick questions such as David Singmaster's:

Q4: What year was it 2000 years ago? though having implications beyond the facts on which they depend, are probably not true puzzles. True puzzles are a test of creativity. They pit us against the unknown in a quest whose goal is by oo means assured, and require so much ingenuity that the focus is more on the strategy than on the prize.
This level of challenge doesn't suit everyone. Six-

year-olds, for example, are too busy acquiring concrete experience to derive much pleasure from purely conceptual puzzles. They want activities to must be learnt before we can eojoy beoding them.

Such activities stand in relation to true puzzles much as early labyrinths do to Hampton Court's maze. In the former, perseverance guarantees success since the path leads without branching to the goal. But for most of us a true maze is one in which we can get lost. Both approaches are combined in the maze designed by Professor Angela Newing to celebrate the 250th anniversary of Painswick House in Gloucestershire, the topiarised figures "2", "5", "0" cunningly incorporate a simple "activity" maze

in the "0" and something more devilish in the "25". The maze will opeo later this year.

Nor are puzzles problems. When called upon to solve a quadratic, say, we are no longer intrepid explorers but followers of a doctrine established by others and taught to us perhaps by rote. The first to discover the general method had the Eureka-buzz of cooquering new territory, leaving us the clerk-like task of applying it (yawn) to particular cases.

Because the solution to a puzzle is not so much a fact as a way of thinking, solving ooe puzzle helps in solving others. Jim L Fixx said there are two sorts of people: those who enjoy puzzles and those who don't. I do not agree. I think we all enjoy puzzles, attainments we don't all enjoy the same sort. A good puzzle is one that does not rely on specialised knowledge, and offers different methods of solution

to suit different styles. Rather like Newing's maze. Great minds, after all, do not think alike.

SOLUTIONS: Q1: Scrooge McDuck. Q2: The whale shark. Q3. The one with the biggest bead. Q4: 3BC, since there was oo year 0.

Chris Maslanka presents 'Puzzle Panel' on Radio 4. Thursdays at 1.30pm, repeated Sundays at 11pm.

#### PANDORA MELLY GAMES PEOPLE PLAY

Louis Theroux, 28, television presenter and journalist

I thought I oeeded to go out on Friday nights, but in fact I'm quite happy to sit and play backgammoo or draughts, which is interesting because I suppose that's a part. of approaching middle age.

It's bard to think of the earliest game I ever played. When I was at school, we used to play social games. That's not a very good word for it; I suppose they were rather unsophisticated pranks. One was called the touching game, whereby you and a friend London and pick out strangers for each other to touch.

It sounds quite rude, but obviously you wouldn't touch their privates. It was just a way of trying to transgress in a controlled environment. And potentially dangerous if you were told to touch a well-muscled builder.

Occasionally, when I was 16 years old, I'd play a horrible game. We would stand by the side of a road, looking as though we

wanted to cross it. Cars would come up and slow right down, and then just as they were oo the verge of stopping, they'd see that we weren't making any move whatsoever, and the drivers would shout: "Yon \*\*\*\*\*\*

loved the idea of being a chess prodigy, but. I've actually never won a single game in my whole life. It's not as though I'd memorised a Spassky opening or anything. But then this friend of mine devised a versioo called

You set up the pieces as for normal meo you mck mem as paru as you can so that you knock your opposent's pieces off the board. It's painful but quite ... fun. They fly off pretty fast. Chess enthusiasts don't really see the point.

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 $\mathbb{R}(\mathbb{Z}_{2n})_{0,n}.$ 

Strain.

1,50

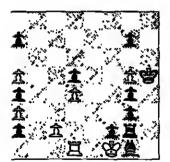
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27. 1

Louis Theroux will be exploring further excesses of American subculture in a second series of his 'Weird Weekends' in December on BBC2, start ing with a Christmas Special. Flick-chess is best played with heavy-duty plastic pieces.

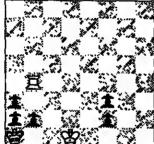
#### CHESS: WILLIAM HARTSTON



I found these two positions in Jeremy Morse's remarkable book Chess Problems: Tasks and Records (published in 1995 by Faber & Faber). They are both examples of that exotic genre, the series-helpstalemate, which means that Black makes all the moves to lead to a position in which White can play one move, leaving Black stalemated. In the course of Black's moves, he may not move into check nor may he deliver a check, except possibly on his final move. The solution of the first position should give you the idea. You have 28 moves to accomplish the task.

Since no black piece can be captured before the final move, he must somehow contrive to gum up his rook and hishop, which means getting a piece to h2. But another hishop can't get there and a knight would deliver check, and any other piece would need h1 and h3 filled as well, and then what's to stop the piece on h3 from moving? The task soon becomes like

trying to stick a cork back into a bottle of frothing liquid.



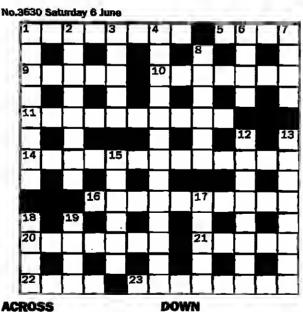
Eventually you realise that Black must leave his king on h5 and fill up the squares from h1 to h4 before finally playing g5 and allowing White to stalemate with Rd6. Here's bow it is done:

1.a1=Q, 2.Qxa3, 3.Qe7, 4.a3, 5.a2, 6.a1=Q, 7.Qxa5, 8.Qad8, 9.a5, t0.a4, 11.a3, 12.a2, 13.al=Q, 14.Qxd4, 15.Qdf6, 16.d4, 17.d3, 18.dxc2, 19.cl=Q, 20.Qcxg5, 21.Qh4. 22.Qh1, 23.Qfh4, 24.Q4h2, 25.Qeb4, 26.Q4h3, 27.Qb4, 28.g5 and now Rd6 does it. In the second position, it's

just 16 moves to stalemate. but finding a way to gum up those black pawns is far from straightforward. If you fiddle around with black pieces in the corner, you'll see that the only hope is to promote four pawns to end with a rook on a2, hishop on h2 and hishop or queen on al, with the final piece captured on the b-file. Answer: 1.b1=N 2.Nd2, 3.Nb3, 4.Kb1, 5.a1=B, 6.Bc3, 7.Bel, 8.fl=R, 9.Rf2, 10.Ra2, 11.f2, 12.f1=Q, 13.Qf6, 14.Oa1, 15.Bc3, 16.Bb2 and finally Rxb3 is stalemate. A

beautiful construction.

#### CONCISE CROSSWORD



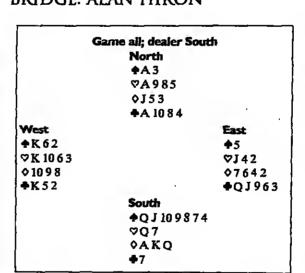
- Volelike rodents (8) Predicament (4) School subject (5) 10 Toward the sheltered
- side (7)
  11 Showed persistence (10)
  14 Authority to enter
- premises (6-7) 16 Insufficient (10) 20 Kettledrums (7) Greek letter (5) 22 Adhesive str 23 Distress (8) Adhesive strength (4)

- 1 Item of street furniture 2 On one's mother's side
- Question (5) Fiftieth anniversary (6,7) Gemstone (4) Purposes (4) Superficial appearance
- Oriental language (8) Cheapest passenger ship fare (8)
- 15 Heavy, durable cloth (6) 17 Gulf state (5) 18 Cheque counterfoil (4) 19 So be it (4)

accented to yesterday's Concise Crossword:

ACROSS: 1 Belle, 4 Tup (Belt up), 7 Flan, 8 Prodigal, 9 Family doctor, 10 Origin, 13 Eschew, 15 Scotch whisky, 19 First aid, 20 Bite, 2t Gas, 22 Early, DOWN: 1 Balsa, 2 Landing, 3 Empty, 4 Taint, 5 Prairie, 6 Morose, 11 Resting, 12 Nectar, 14 Climber, 16 Oasis, 17 Wedge, 18 Kitty.

#### **BRIDGE: ALAN HIRON**



You have to be far-sighted at this game to achieve the best results. I have an instinctive feeling that only a minority of players would have succeeded on this deal. Certainly South was not among their number.

South opened One Spade, North responded Two Clubs, and South jumped to Three Spades. North, rather wildly, brought out the sledgehammer of Roman Key Card Blackwood and, on learning that either ♦ A or ♠K was missing, raised to Six Spades. West led \$ 10 against the slam and, after winning. South led and ran +Q successfully. West, of course, did not cover.

With high hopes, declarer cashed A but the king did not fall and East had the opportunity to signal helpfully with \$Q. South played off the top diamonds and exited with a trump hut West had received his partner's message and got off lead safely with a club. Now, eventually, South had to lose a heart trick.

Weil, how would a more thoughtful declarer have tackled the hand? They would realise that, should West have a natural trump trick, it would be necessary to remove all of his safe exit cards before throwing him in. With that in mind, the best sequence of play is clear:

Cash A at trick two and ruff a club, then take the trump finesse and try A. unsuccessfully. Now another club ruff follows and, after cashing the remaining top diamonds, South finally gets off lead with a trump, having now reduced West to hearts alone.

#### BACKGAMMON: CHRIS BRAY

Over the years that I have written this column I am conscious of the fact that I have neither published, nor analysed, a complete game. In giving instruction it is easier to make a point about a position than about a whole game.

However, all the really strong players have spent many hours studying matches in depth, move by move. This is because you must understand not only the tactics of each position as it arises, but also the dynamics of playing the game itself. Backgammon is oot played in a void but in a world where emotion plays a large part in the decisioo-making process (this is not true of our silicon friends, but we'll leave them out of it for the moment). The best players keep their emotions under control, but even they have occasional lapses when a really dramatic turnaround occurs.

One of the first things that you notice from studying matches is the number of difficult decisions each player has to make in a single game. The advent of computer analysis has shown us that, if the wrong game plan is chosen, there can be quite hig equity differences on even apparently the most simple of moves.

1 am going to start with a short game from the 1994 world championships between Peter Thomsen (Black) and Frank Frigo (White). You are advised to use a board to play through the moves:

On his first move White rolled 62 and played 24/18, 13/11. Black countered with 21, and played 13/11, 8/7\*. White's second roll was 21 and already he faced choices. He can play bar/24, 13/11: bar/22; bar/23, 6/5. Frigo chose bar/23, 6/5. This looks a little wide open with hlots everywhere but often an aggressive style in the opening pays dividends. The weakest choice is bar/24, 13/11 that does nothing much to improve White's position. I like Frigo's choice.

Black rolled 62 and played the obvious and best 11/5, 7/5 though note that even here there are choices and you should at least notice that 13/7, 24/22 is a possibility. White's third roll was 22 and again he faced a difficult choice. There are at least six reasonable choices. I will leave you to find them before next week's article.

Backgammon: an Independent View' - an anthology of Chris Bray's writings in 'The Independent' and elsewhere - is available from: C Bray, 18 Glendower Road, London SW18 8NY (£11.99 + £1.25 pcp).



southern Italy.

By Nikki Spencer

Whereas cows' milk mozzarella is pretty bland, mozzarella di bufala has an earthy - almost mossy - taste. This is in part due to the marshland of Campania around Naples, where most of the herds are reared. Originally buffalo were kept here simply because they were practically the only animals that could survive the bleak conditions. For hundreds of years the peasant farmers sold the cheese they made from the milk for next to nothing, until their product caught oo with the foodies of Naples and became fashionable.

As with many Italian ingredients, things started to take off for buffalo mozzarella in the Sixties and Seveoties, with the development of tourism and the arrival of an Italian trattoria on nearly every high street in this country.

Patricia Michelson started selling buffalo mozzarella in ber London cheese shop, La Fromagerie, when she first opeoed for business seven years ago, although she says some customers still take a while to come round to the idea that it's made from real buffalo milk, "People can't quite believe that there are buffalo living in Italy," she says.

However, the cheese is now in such demand that Italy is not the only place you'll find the cattle today. In 1991 Bob Palmer and his wife imported buffalo into Britain, Now they bave a herd of 200 on their farm in Warwickshire, and they produce their own buffalo mozzarella which they sell, in a coals-to-Newcastle arrangement, to an Italian wholesaler. They have also used the milk to make yoghurt and ice-cream.

Bob claims that the cattle adapt superbly to our environment. "Buffalo have different sweat glands to cows, which means they're less heat tolerant. So in many ways they are better off in a climate like ours, particularly during a summer like this one," be says.

#### **Buffalo** trails

 The best buffalo mozzarella is produced on the farms themselves, but with increasing commercialisation the milk is also dried or frozen so that cheese can be made on a larger scale in factories. Among other outlets, you can buy farmhouse mozzarella di bufala from the village of Battipaglia, just south of Naples, and from La Fromagerie, 30 Highbury Park, London N5 (0171-359 7440) for £4.25 for 30g. Milk is not the only popular buffalo product. The meat is increasingly sought after because it is lower in cholesterol and higher in mineral conteot than beef - and because there has been no incidence of BSE in buffalo. You can buy British buffalo meat by mail order from Barrow Boar, Foster's Farm, South Barrow, Yeovil, Somerset (01963 440315). Supplies are still limited, so the meat is expensive: £27 per kilo for rump steak.



Students on West Dean College's weekend life drawing course - one of the chief considerations is choosing a good angle

Photograph: Russell Sach. Illustrations: Reader's Digest

# The naked truth

When you try your hand at life drawing you reveal more of yourself than you would if you were posing nude. Sally Staples joins a weekend course

Zoë Williams is lying naked on a low divan while a "There is a terrible burden on you when you look at ing likeness and others doing her no credit at all.

It is intriguing that one artist's pencil has produced one can feel disheartened for long. a sylph-like stunner while another has made this beautiful young girl look like a she-elephant. Does this bother the model? Zoč says not.

"Being a life model is a bizarre process, but as a fine art student I have done life drawing myself and I do understand how the students feel. They are terribly judgemental about their pictures, and I think you reveal much more of yourself when you put something on paper than you do standing here with all your clothes off.

"I am the only naked person in the room and they are drawing me, but at the same time I cease to be a person. They are drawing what they see. It bas nothing to do with the real me. I think there is an idea that a life model should be romantic or Bohemian in some way, and if that is what people see then that is

what they try to create." The students on this weekend life-drawing class at West Dean College in Sussex range from a retired GP in his eighties to housewives in their twenties. Some have artistic backgrounds or some drawing experience; ginners to be literal and to draw what they see rather others, like Helen Binnie, are complete be-

ginners.

dozen people wander round her checking out the best this beautiful girl and then try to translate what you angles. All over the walls of the art studio are half- see on to paper with just a pencil. You begin by feelfinished images of Zoe - some bearing an astonishing it is impossible to do it justice. It is easy to be discouraged, but the teaching here is so good that no a better eye and this course

"The great thing is that as you struggle there is always something you manage to do well - even if it's only a bit of the model's neck. Just one curve that has come ont really well can make you feel uplifted. It is only when you really look at a human body that you gether. realise how incredibly complicated it is. Trying to translate all those angles and shapes is a buge challenge."

Thtor Valerie Wiffen, a graduate from the Royal College of Art and the author of a Reader's Digest guide to figure sketching, is full of enthusiasm and keeps her class working fast. On the second day of the course the model assumes live poses, holding each one for two minutes and then returning to each pose five times. This encourages the students to concentrate hard, and they discover that in a short time they can achieve more than they thought.

"Life drawing is difficult and it is bard to keep a grip on dimensions and proportions," says Valerie. "But I want my pupils to learn tonal drawing so they will shade wherever they see shadows. It is easier for bethan to edit visually. The idea

is to include as much

Carol Craig. a bousewife from Surrey, has tried sculpting but never life drawing before. "I wanted to have has really inspired me. Val doesn't mind repeating points over and over again until they sink in, and gradually things bave come to-"At first all I wanted to do

was lines. Then I learned how to look and I realised how difficult it is to put what you see on paper. Now

I have started shading and using tones to got the effect I'm after." John Carrick-Smith, a Londoner who works for a hank, thoroughly approves of Val's emphasis on tonal drawing, although in trendy circles it is derided as

rather old-fashioned. "Val is good because she doesn't impose her method on you; she pulls ont what is already there and belos you develop. I think it is important that before people try the Damien Hirst technique they should understand the basics of drawing and

While the students are preparing to work on the 90-minute study of Zoe, Val encourages them to spend time choosing their position so that they have the angle that they want to draw. "If you're not sure about the pose, spend five minutes on several thumbnail sketches and then decide," she says.

"If you give a good grounding to students, technique is not a problem. Their own technique is the best. I try to give people individual pointers as to strengths and weaknesses. I won't allow them to throw away work in a fury when they think it has gone wrong. So long as you can rub out if you see something that is clearly wrong, move it and go for a battle-scarred winner. It is better to have dragged something into exactitude than to live with a drawing that you know

in your heart is a flop. "I encourage them to experiment with huge variations in what they draw, with different scales and a change of eye level. I try to teach the students to be



brave, to stand back and look for a comprehensive image. The knack is to throw the whole thing together fast and then worry about detail.

The negative shapes of where the modisn't must match the positive shapes of where the subject is. And I try to get them to think in terms of shade rather than lines. You don't really need a line unless you're drawing a barrier between different tones."

Val Wiffen's life drawing residential weekend course costs from £156 and is run by the Department of Continuing Education at West Dean College, West Dean, near Chichester in Sussex (01243-811301). Val also teaches at Missenden Abbey, Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire (01494-890295).

'Figure Sketching' by Valerie Wiffen is published by Reader's Digest, price £15.99



# Sleepers awake to become tables

The stuff of ... recycled railway tracks. Sally Staples visits African Trackwoods – a shop

that offers the ultimate in green consumerism

wean railway sleepers, laid down more than a century ago.

This remarkable shop specialises in furniture carved from obsolete Zimbab-

Every dining table, coffee table, linen chest and bedhead is unique made in local workshops by African craftsmen from teak timbers that have shop offers more than furniture. Offcus

weathered and matured under the tropical sun. The idea for the shop took root when

the furniture maker Tony Peel set up his own cottage industry in Zimbabwe. It proved so popular that he began exporting some of his work. Four years on he now has 80 people working for

him, and his sister has set up a shop in the Buckinghamshire town of Marlow. The furniture blends easily with many different styles, and the environmentally conscious can feel comfortable that they are buying a truly recycled

product. None of the wood they use depletes the rainforest. A round dining-table costs £1,550. Chairs are £185, rising to £215 for carvers. A coffee table (160cm x 86cm) costs £980, a double bed £1,170. And the



New from old - coffee table made out of former train timbers

are used to make small pieces including clocks (£68), aromatherapy boxes (£58), bridge sets, CD racks (£56), even bread bins (£70). There are trays of all sizes, magazine racks and bookends. For £5 you can buy a wooden paperweight.

off the furniture are a selection of artefacts and carvings from Zimbabwe - all made by local craftsmen.

The 5-ft-high wooden giraffes (£110) are unusual and decorative examples of African art. Displayed on the walls are Batonka axes used in ritual dances, and traditional hunting spears.

There is a chief's chair from Malawi, carved from two pieces of ebony that slot into one another to form a portable seat engraved with intricate designs that reflect tribal life.

This is a shop where browsers are welcomed. But be warned: it may change the way you want to style your house.

African Trackwoods is at Crown Lane, Marlow, Buckinghamshire SL7 3HL (01628 481086) Open from Tuesday to Dotted round the shop and setting Saturday, 9.30am-5pm

## THE INDEPENDENT Hardwood Garden Furniture

from £ 59.99 (inc. carriage) Ideal for outdoor and conservatory use, this high quality garden furniture is exceptional

The furniture is made from Bagtihan, a heavy hardwood timber from sustained forestry resources, sanded to a smooth finish and treated with teak oil to enhance its looks and durability. Constructed to a high standard, using mortise and tenos joints, it can be left out-

doors in all sessons and requires minimal maintenance - just a coat of teak oil once or twice a year. The 4ft (122cm) bench costs £89.99, and the 5ft (1,52cm) is just £99.99. The chairs cost £69.99 and are 62cm wide. Both benches and the chair, measure 90 cm hi by 60cm deep. The coffee table costs just £59.99 and measures 90cm long, 45cm wide s 41cm high. The femiliare is delivered flatpacked but each item is easily constructed from four separate pieces which slot together to giv professional finish. UK mainland carriage is

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itreamlined for speed: Frankie Dettori and Cape Verdi may prove an irresistible force in today's Derby

## Cape Verdi can strike a real blow for the modern female

THIS, the 219th Derby, is the ace that has been in the nightnanagement for several months

If you had to assemble a novelty. tream team for the Derby it avourite for the premier Clasnd, if you were really being faniful, you could throw in a top illy to give the colts a run for heir morey. Today though that everie becomes reality and the unly surprise seems to be that he Blue Riband.

est then racing is simply not our game. It is anticipated hat at about 3.50 this afternoon se will see the coming of a truy wooderful thoroughbred. Vhichever animal negotiates he old switchback quickest nust surely become, in an intant, one of the horses of the lecade.

The cast list is so glittering hat it would be surrounded by eon in different fields. Most atractive is the participation of Tape Verdi, the 1,000 Guineas vinner, whn attempts to beome the seventh filly to suceed in the race and the first ince Fifinella in 1916. Only five of her sex have even bothered rying since 1919, but Cape

Richard Edmondson expects the 1,000 Guineas winner to ime bubbles of the Epsom become the first filly to beat the colts in the Derby since 1916

She represents the mighty rould include the winter Godolphin team who have been seasoned in Arabia. When the ic. It would also include the winter camp broke up to return also have the winter favourite the entire squad. Not the best filly. Just the best.

ester Piggott is leaving it so late her rivals. Since that day she has ing well. They won two Group One events last weekend.

Cape Verdi's male counterpart is King Of Kings, and a fur-Derby is that the 2,000 Guineas winner represents an axis of the Coolmore Stud, owner Michael Tabor and trainer Aidan O'Brieo which has become

Verdi is ont in this just as some Godolphin's deadliest natural ri- utation is that of a colt who can val. It is the first time the respective Guineas winners have met in the Derby since 1917.

The Irish-based team will

rinner of the 1,000 Guineas to these shores the word war for the race, Second Empfre, that Cape Verdi was the best in carrying the flag and it is from these three horses that our new champion is expected to In the first fillies' Classic she emerge. "It could turn out to be proved the assessment correct, a very good Derby this year besauntering five lengths clear of cause we've got the 1,000 Guineas and 2,000 Guineas o announce his comeback in conducted a scorched earth winners in there," Michael policy on the Newmarket gal- Stoute, who trains another well-This is the Derby you do oot lops. Godolphin have ont said fancied creature in Greek recovered from pulled muscles Rise and Sadian appeared to be rave to sell. If you're not in- she is going to win, but they ex- Dance, says. "And we saw in his quarters. Nevertheless, he locked together in the practice stricted in this particular con- part has to. And the least is go- enough of Second Empire last came pleasingly through his fihorse as well.

"I couldn't be that confident about my horse because if one ther delicious strand to the of those three is as good at a mile and a half as they are at a mile theo you're talking about a very formidable athlete indeed."

King Of Kings is a remarkable price considering his rep-

give a head start to a bullet out of a gun oo the home gailops (his Ballydoyle yard, incidentally, has provided the last seven Irish-trained winners of the Derby). The strong suggestion

er, Michael Kinane, on Second It will be a difficult assignment for Kinane's mount because he has only receotly ragh recently, a gallop he

seems to be that King Of Kings

will not stay today's trip and his

camp have tacitly accepted this

point by placing their main rid-

Irish 2,000 Guineas. A third Ballydoyle horse, Saratoga Springs, would be in single figures in the betting market had be not competed in the Prix du Jockey Club (French

deing on and on and on... 24hrs a day

conducted while masquerad-

ing as the favourite for the

The best advice of all oo this

NISSAN

Le Mans '98

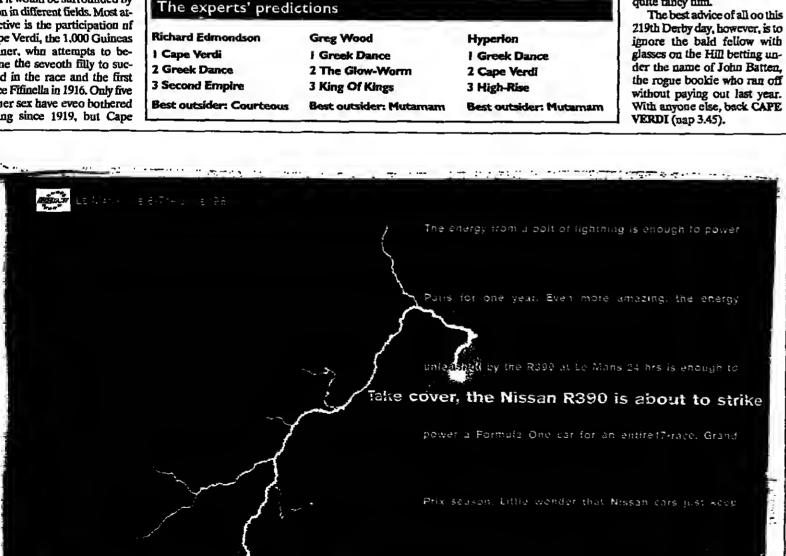
chestnut looked a little washed out at Chantilly, where his run hardly advertised the form of his previous victory in the Dante Stakes. That means his York victims City Hooours and Border Arrow are damned by associa-

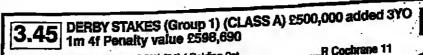
Derby) last weekend. The

Greek Dance ran in a less competitive race at the Keevesmire meeting and though he was receiving weight from his nearest rival, Capri, that nearest rival did not finish that near. He looks a certainty to reach the frame.

There is also a pale look about the Derby trials from Lingfield and Chester, Highyear to show us he is a very good nal piece of work on the Cur- Gulland's success at the Roodeye raised doubts about his capacity to last this afternoon's distance on Epsom's taxing undulating course.

More tempting is the hig price attached to another trial victor, Courteous, whose pedigree and running style tell us he will be one of the few who actually enjoys the trip. His stable quite fancy him.





IGreek Da

1-133 BORDER ARROW (24) I Baking 9st...

Chestruit colt by Sellark (whose progeny on everage stay 7,95) out of Milibe Point (who is by Sura Blade) Owner: R B Michaelson Form: Walted with, headway St out, every chance when hampered 11 out, one paced when 14, lengths that rooms wared with, headway St out, every chance when hampered in out, one paged when 17, largues and in Suratoge Springs and City Honours in the Group Two Dente States at York (an 21 10)yds, good). Previously held up, headway 2f out, thished strongly when two lengths third to King Of Kings in the Group One 2,000 Guineae States at Newmarkst (an, good to soft).

Suramary: Useful performs at a mile but far from cartain on breading to be as effective at a mile and a helf and an at York as it a mile and a custom was as far as the purpose.

and ren at York as if a mile and a quarter was as far as he wants to go.

Going / Distance X Form rating 115 Time rating 117

413-2 CITY HONCURS (24) Saeed bin Suroor 9st.

Bey cost by Derenses (whose progesy on everage stay 1m 3.5f) out of Reabens (who is by Sedier's Wells). Forms Always prominent, led Sf out until 2f out, one paced that furiong when helf a tength second to Sensionary Springe in the Group Tivo Dante Stakes at York (Im 2f 10)yds, good). Previously asked for effort 2f out, headway that the Group Tivo Dante stakes that for Exercise and Probe in the Group Tivo Hoyal Lodge. Stakes at Ascot (im. good to firm) last Septem Summery: Ran a sound race in the Denie on his responsance, but the winner let the form down when only tours in the French Denby and, although he is bred to stay this distance, he must improve a lot to hold a chance.

Going / Distance ? Form rating 115 Time rating 115

rage stay 1m 3.2l) out of Helionic (who is by Dan

86 VIII.

DECT SON

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4

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Mer of Kinane

41-1 COURTEOUS (42) P Cole 9st ..... Owner: Fahd Salman

Bay colt by Generous (whose progeny on everage stay 1m 3.4f) out of Dayensta (who is by Shirtey Heights) Fores: Dropped back 8f out, reversed effort approaching final furiong, led one furiong out and stayed on well when beating Eco Prientily by six lengths in Group Three Classic Trief at Sandown (Im 21, soft). Previously led of out, burg left inside finer turking but stayed on when beefing Majestic Hills by threequarters of a length in meiden at Selfabury (\*\*\*), good) lest October. Summery: Brad to stay the Darby distance and its effective on soft ground but needs to improve substantial-

ly on what he has achieved so far if he is to play a mejor part.

Going of Distance ? Form rating 109 Time rating 113 4 2-11 GREEK DANCE (23) M Stoute 9st.

Form: Held up and behind, steady beadway over 4f out, led over 2f out and quickened clear impressively when beeling Capri by six lengths in the Glasgow Stakes at York (fm 2f 10)yds, good). Previously always well there, progress to lead one and a half turiongs out, ran on well when beeting Hewadeth by two lengths in maiden at Semenary: Impressive on both starts this year, notched a feir time at York, handles cut in the ground and is bred to stay well but tackles a much tougher assignment here and may find one or two too good for him.

Going / Distance T Form rating 112 Time rating 119 421-21 GULLAND (32) (D) G Wragg 9st ... Owner: Molecs Recing

Bay colt by Linkweln (whose progeny on average stay 1m 3.2f) out of Spin (who is by High Top) Form: Alveys well there, led 5f out, forged deer entering finel furions, inled and just held on when beating The Glow-Worse by a short-head in the Group Three Chester Vase at Chester (Im 47 HDyds, good). Previously led, quickened 21 out, headed inside finel furions, kept on when a neck second to Xear in the Group Three Crewen os at Novemericat (tm, soft).

ary: Smart colt, who evidently stays a mile and a half, but falled to impress at Chester and might not be suited by Epson's switch-back track.

1131-5 HAAMI (35) J Dunlop 9st

Owner, Lord Weinstock

Bay coil by Sadier's Wells (whose progeny on a

Bay colt by Neshwan (whose progery on average stay fin 1.7f) out of Ourneldaya (who is by Nureyev) Form: Tracked leaders, headway and every chance 2 out, unable to guidean approaching final furlong when three lengths 6th to King Of Kings in the Group One 2000 Guineas Stakes at Newmarket (Im. good to firm). Previously tracked leader, made headway to lead approaching final furlong, ran on when beating Birthang by 11/s lengths in the Listed Tattersalis States at Newmarket (71, good to firm).

Summary: Ran a decent race in the 2000 Guineas and is bred to stay the Derby distance. Has similar cre-dentials to the 1931 Derby winner Generous in that respect, but is unlikely to prove that good.

Going / Distance ? Form rating 114 Time rating 117

1-11 HIGH-RISE (28) L Cumani 9st ... Owner: Shellth Mohammed Obeid Al Maktoum Bay colt by High Estate (whose progeny on average stay 1 m 2.5t) out of High Term (who is by High Line)

Form: Held up, tracked leaders over 5f out until 3f out, led 2f out, ridden out when besting Sedian by a neck in the Group Three Lingfield Derby Titel at Lingfield (Im 3f, 108yds, good). Previously held up, headway on rails 2f out, quickened to lead 1f out, went clear and eased near finish when besting Generous Libra by 31/x lengths in the Buttercross Limited States at Pontelrast (Im 2f, good to soft). Summary: Stays the Darby distance and has similar credentials to 1988 winner Khayasi. However, this looks a better race and, while he could keep on to reach the frame, it is hard to see him wirning

Going ✓ Distance ✓ Form rating 104 Time rating 101 KING OF KINGS (35) A P O'Brien (Irl) 9st .....

Owner: Mrs J Magnier Bay coft by Sadler's Wells (whose progeny on average stay 1m 3.2f) out of Zummerudd (who is by Habitat) Forms Held up, steady headway 21 out, 3f out, led 11 out, ran on well when beating Lend A Hand by 11/4 lengths in the Group One 2,000 Guinees Stakes at Newmarket (im. good to soft). Previously always promine way to lead if out, kept on well when bearing Celtic Cavaller by threequarters of a length in the Group One Ne-tional Stakes at the Curragh (im, soft) lest September. Summary: Showed great speed and class to win the Quineas but, out of a Hebitat mare, lacks starring on the

dents side of his pedigree and is no certainty to stay the Derby distance. Going / Distance ? Form rating 120 Time rating 120

113-2 MUTAMAM (18) A Stewart 9st... Owner: Harnden Al Makhoum

Bay cost by Darsfraan (whose progeny on average say 1m 3.50) out of Petal Cirl (who is by Caerleon)
Forna: Held up, stayed on under pressure 1f out, ran on first furiong when half a length second to Rabah in
the Listed Predominate Stakes at Goodwood (firm 2t, good to firm). Previously held up, headway when hampered and switched left if out, ran on well when a length third to Saratoge Springs in the Group One Racing Post Trophy at Doncaster (Im, good) last October.

Going ✔ Distance ? Form rating 10? Time rating 113

1-12 SADIAN (28) H Cecil 9st.

Owner: Prince A A Falsa Bay colt by Shirley Heights (whose progeny on average stay 1m 4.1f) out of Ratha (who is by Kris) Form: Held up, ridden over 3t out, led over 2t out, soon headed, hard ridden and every chance inside tinal turong and ren on well final funlong when a neck second to High-Rise in the Group Three Lingfield Derby Trial at Lingifield (tm 3t, 106yds, good). Previously made all, ridden a furlong out and ran on well when beating Hadaylk by 31/k langthe in the Tattenham Corner Stakes at Bath (tm 2t, soft).

many: Another who promises to stay well but does not seem to have enough class to hold a serious chance. Might reach a place at big odds. Golog ✓ Distance ✓ Form rating 104 Time rating 166

11 1311-14 SARATOGA SPRINGS (6) A P O'Brien (in) 9st...

Owner: M Tabor Cheetrut coll by El Gran Senor (whose progeny on average stay 1m 0.81) out of Population (who is by General Asse Form: Held up, headway over 2f out, hard ridden 1f out, one peced when five lengths fourth to Dream Web in the Group One Prix du Jockey Cub (French Derby) at Chantily (im 4f, good). Previously held up and behind, effort over 3f out, ridden to lead final furlong, ran on well when beating City Honours by half a length in the Group Two Dante Stakes at York (Im 2f 110yds, good).

Summary: Appeared to have his limitations exposed when only fourth in the French Derby and might eventually prove best over tri 2t, the distance of his Dente success Going ✓ Distance ✓ Form rating 117 Time rating 115

111-3 SECOND EMPIRE (14) A P O'Brien (irl) 9st...... Owner: M Tabor Bay cost by Fairy King (whose progeny on average stay 7.5f) out of Walsh Love (who is by Ela-Mana-Mou)

Form: Held up at the back, pulled hard, headway into third place 11/2 furlongs out, one paced and eased final furlong when four lengths third to Desert Prince in the Group One Irish 2000 Guineas at the Curragh (Im., good to firm). Previously always prominent, led over a furtong out, ridden out when beating Charge D'Affaires by 11/3 langths in the Group One Grand Criterium at Longchamp (im, heavy).

Summary: Might have won lest time with a more forceful ride but his sympathetic handling raises worries about

his soundness and is no certainty on breeding to stay the Darby distance. Brillant trainer though, Going ✓ Distance ? Form rating 116 Time rating 119 22-222 SUNSHINE STREET (27) N Meade (irl) 9st ...

Bay coll by Sunstrine Forever (whose progety on avealige stay 1m 4.79) out of Meadow Spirit (who is by Chiat's Crown)

Bey cox by suremer round (waste program or after 21, kept on well from 21 out when 11/s lengths second to Fisk Material in the Group Three Deminstown Stud Derby Trial at Leoperdstown (fin 21, good). Previously led until headed 4f out, stayed on to lead again inside final furlang, caught on line when a short-head second to Beldarian in a maiden at Leoperdstown (1m2i, soft). Summery: Has yet to win even a melden from five starts so far and, although bred to stay the Derby diet

ns certain to take considerably longer to do so than the winner. Going ✓ Distance X Form rating 95 Time rating 106

14 3631-12 THE GLOW-WORM (32) B His 9st Owner: Mrs J M Corbett

Bay colt by Dayoun (whose progeny on average stay 1m 2.4f) out of Shakanda (who is by Shametar) Form: Held up and behind, headway under pressure 2f out, hard ridden final furiong and rath on well when a short-head second to Gulland in the Group Three Chester Vase at Chester (fin 4f 110yds, good). Previously held up headway 2f out, led inside final furlong and ran on well when beating Achilles by 11% lengths in the Blue Fibend Trial Stales at Epsom (Im 4), soft).

Ploand trax Scares at epscrit (intra) souly.

Summary: Stays well and is a tough performer who looks sure to run a decent race. Appears to lack that vital bit of class, however, and it is hard to see him holding more than each-way prospects.

Going 
Distance 
Fore rating 110 Time rating :01

1214-1 CAPE VERDI (34) Saeed bin Surpor 8st 9lb. Owner: Godolphin Bey Rily by Caerteen (whose progeny on average stay 1m 2.61) out of Afrique Bleu Azur (who is by Sagace). Bey Rily by Caerteen (whose progeny on seed over a furforing out, quickened clear and ran on well when beating Sharinoush by five lengths in the Group One 1000 Guineas States at Newmarket (im, good to soft). Provious-

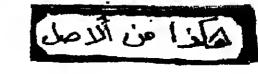
by held up, effort Sf out, stayed on final furtong when five lengths fourth to Embassy in the Group One Cheveby Park Stakes at Newmartet (8t, good).

Summary: Won the 1000 Curinees in brilliant style and a fast time and is bred to be just as good if not better

at the Derby distance. No filty has won the Derby since 1916 but this one must have a great chance. Going / Distance ? Form rating 126 Time rating 123

BETTING: 100-30 Greek Darice, 7-2 Cape Verdi, 4-1 Second Empire, 10-1 City Honours, Gulland, King Of Kings, 16-1 Courteous, High-Rise, 20-1 The Glow-Worm, 22-1 Haami, 25-1 Border Arrow, Sedien, Saratoga Springs, 50-1 Mutamam, 250-1 Sunshine Street 1997: Benny The Dip 3 9 0 W Ryan 11-1 (J Gosden) drawn (8) 13 ran

Compiled by Ian Davies



# Greek Dance gives Stoute good reason to sing

The man who trained Shergar and Shahrastani to win the premier Classic has a third Derby victory in range. Richard Edmondson reports

IF Greek Dance wins the Derby this afternoon it will almost certainly mean curtains for the Queen's Stand at Epsom. Michael Stoute will laugh and the masonry will start falling.

Mr Stoute doesn't giggle or titter. When he is amused he explodes and the whole vicinity appears to rock. The tremors come regularly because the trainer is both hugely successful and constantly amazed by his own good fortune. "I know for a fact that I've been very fortunate," he says. "I've always got a bit of an opening when I needed one, the sort of opportunities not a lot of people get."

You may care to believe en that through good luck you can win the Derby, the Dubai World Cup, the Japan Cup and the Breeders' Cup, and the other great sheaf of Group One races Stoute has collected in over 25 years with a licence. But then you'd have to be as crackers as the trainer sometimes appears to be on the Newmarket gallops.

You can tell Stoutey's coming in the mornings because he either whistles or sings all the time. Sometimes he does the laugh. One day a huge hutterfly net will come plonking down

Stoute received me at Freemason Lodge this week and let me into the sitting room, a collision of flowery sofas and equine memorabilia, a sort of Newmarket Horseracing Museum meets Laura Ashley. Here are the trappings of a winner. There is a montage of Singspiel's five Group Ones, pictures of his previous Derby tress Gwyn's victory in the Janice and Matthew's Wedding

Day Stakes at Catterick in 1994. Stoute does not use this ash tray though he does smoke his the sort of voice that commn-Cut. He chews gum at the nicates with micro-organisms at same time. And he talks. This the bottom of the sea. This lift for the whole yard It's last hit will come as something week it has been talking a lot of scurprise to those who know about the Derby. the rainer only through the



Calling the tune: Michael Stoute is heard before he is seen as he whistles his way around Newmarket's gallops during the morning routine of exercising his stable's expensive inmates

enclosure and then seems as Dubai [and Singspiel's World though he will do just about anything rather than talk to the press. When he is cornered, this Scarlet Monosyllable always pretends he has seen someone the distance and scurries round the pack.

Stoute at home is a different matter. You get the benefit of his Caribhean hasso profundo (his family stretches a race with great history back to the 1600s in Barbados), and it's run in England.

enough to have a lot of m-After he has won a contest ternational success here and "It's just degrees of great thrills. gree, which helps, and we'd be

Cup] was particularly satisfying because we took a high-class grass horse and beat the American horses on a surface he was unfamiliar with.

"But it's the Derby which is the seriously important race of them all. All round it creates more natural buzz because it's

"Having a horse like Greek Dance causes a interesting and h's exciting to have him around. Every-"We've been fortunate one's delighted and fascinated

with the horse. "I think we go to Epsom Michael Stoute is the most elu-sive trainer in British racing. He and great thrills," Stoute says. the frame. He's got the pedi-

very surprised if he didn't get the trip. We're happy with him and he's progressing nicely. He's not a spectacular horse at home hut that can he a char-

Stoute's principal confederate this afternoon will be Walter Swinburn. The Choirboy is more the senior chorister these days and also a more acteristic of some of Sadler's rounded person in and out of

'Greek Dance has got the pedigree and we'd be surprised if he didn't get the trip. He looks pretty safe and we'd be disappointed if we didn't run very well'

in the mornings as he is in the afternoon.

"He looks pretty safe and we'd be disappointed if we

Wells' stock. He does good the saddle according to his class work but he's not as good main employer. The two have had their spats. "I think Wally has a God-given talent and it was all pretty easy for him early on," Stoute says. "He start-ed here as stable jockey in 1981 tral green looks suspiciously

when we had a spectacular year with Shergar, Marwell, Hard Fought and Dalsaan. "But he's always had a

weight problem and discipline has been lacking at times. I just felt he wasn't achieving his potential so we've had some ups and downs on

> the way through. he's done, walking away from racing and then coming back probably fit- am very well aware of the comter and better prepared,

mentally and physically, than he's ever been before. He's riding well." Michael Stoute looks out of the window and across what must be one of the least frilly

there are large flower tubs, unconvincing decoration, at each Stoute probably believes that

owners appreciate horses more than horticulture and he prefers to impress the former with results. He manages that as well as anyone, which is why rich folk "But I can only give are happy to entrust expensive seeks to make them even more valuable breeding machines. "I

> mercial aspects of the sport which mean more to some of my owners than others," Stoute says. "That's my joh. But it would be ungrateful to call it

"I always like what Jack Berry says, that it's much Greek Dance may literally hring tougher at the bottom. We're the bouse down this afternoon.

like a council football pitch, and lucky to have that calibre of

Stoute is only 52 and will be providing board and lodging for the very best thoroughbreds for many seasons to come. "We look at every year as a different year and we realise we have to achieve." he says. "It's got to

"There are a lot of owners him full credit for what thoroughbreds to a man who to keep happy and a lot of lads competitive with each other because it might be their turn that particular year. We're happy hut we're not satisfied. We want to keep doing it and the fear of failure is always there."

His fellow trainers will be glad to hear that Michael Ronald Stoute feels fear. He is usually the one causing it.

## Test driver divided between two speed machines

IF Cape Verdi wins the Derby. Frankie Dettori will he the man who gets the plaudits on the day, and very likely rightly so. But behind the star names in the sadare a legion of riders whose importance to the sport is often understated but cannot he overemphasised.

The contribution made by the men and women who ride exercise and work on the home gallops is crucial. A good pair of hands sends messages of mental and physical balance down the reins and the horse-power contained in them runs sweetly; a bad pair, and you have a Ferrari with the choke out and no hrakes or suspension.

The motor racing analogies are valid enough. Michael Schumacher and Dettori both do their share of behind-the-scenes testing, but both rely on the work put in earlier by a dedicated, hand-picked backroom team, whether wearing the livery of Maranello or, in today's

Shaun Murphy has been responsible for the day-to-day well-being and education of not only Cape Verdi, but also the boy in hiue, City Honours. And according to the man who knows them best, both are worthy of respect this afternoon. That the filly was already a

case, Godolphin. For the past 10 months

well-beaten third. Wet weath-

Sue Montgomery on the rider with the inside line on Cape Verdi and City Honours

over was testament to the skills of Derek Crutchley, his oppo at her first competitive home, Peter Chapple-Hyam's Manton, and like him an ex-jockev. "The first time I sat on Cape Verdi I knew immediately she had class." Murphy said, "but it was a couple of months mto her work in Dubai before we knew

just how much. "When we took her off the sand and on to the grass track at Nad El Sheba she just ran away from everything and we at him all the time. She'd be the

delight to ride when he took her knew we had something a bit special. She's got speed, she can quicken, and can keep galloping. I am sure she'll stay. It all

> comes so easy for her. "The Derby can be a rough race, and although Cape Verdi is not small, she's lighter than some of those big colts, and wouldn't want to he bumped around. But she's got the pace to lay up near the front and stay out of trouble.

"You have to work much harder on City Honours, keep

classier ride, but he's a real looked after the Irish Oaks wintough individual, and should be able to hold his own in any bufthe pace, doing all his best work at the end."

After he relinquished his licence to ride in public, Murphy, 32, from Kinsale, Co Cork, had a spell with John Gosden in Newmarket but was head-hunted three years ago by Godolphin from the States, where he was riding work on the tracks and hreaking yearlings at the hig Kentucky stud farms.

began at the age of 16 he has been there, done most - as an apprentice at Con Collins's he and he knows the score."

ner Princess Pati, and with the Mullins family rode Dawn Run feting. He'll be coming from off a few times and spent two days unconscious after a fall from a tesser beast ("The horse went into a wall but all I remember is passing the dung-heap and wondering whether to dive into it") - but has found his niche with Sheikh Mohammed's élite.

"All right, it's Frankie gets the glory," Murphy said. "But this job gives real satisfaction. You're riding really good horses and it's up to you how they In a life with racehorses that turn out. And your work is appreciated, from the top, The Sheikh is a borseman himself,

## Power of Kinane can enable Empire to strike back

Border Arrow: Relished Newmarket's uphill finish in his first to starts and again ran well when third to King Of Kings in the 2,000 Guineas. Seemed jaded by those exertions when third to Saratoga Springs in the Dante Stakes. Big horse who

may not handle the track. City Honours: Wintered in Dubai and looked a million dollars before splitting Saratoga Springs and Border Arrow third in the Royal Lodge Craven Stakes but largely disin the Dante at York. Finished Stakes for Peter Chapple-Hyam last season and should be well suited by today's trip. Courteous: A son of the 1991 Serby winner, Generous, he easily won the Classic Trial at the subsequent French Guin-could still run a big race if rid-Sandown on soft ground, with eas runner-up Muhtathir a den with more restraint.

M. The Straight Marie

er has improved his chance. Greek Dance: Beautifully-bred colt by Sadler's Wells out of St Leger runner-up Hellenic. Improving with every race. Easily won a maiden at Newmarker and then trounced Capri by six lengths in the Glasgow Stakes at York. Working well and strongly fancied, though yet to beat Group-class opponents. Gulland: Ran a cracker when a neck second to Xaar in the ner since his unimpressive short-head defeat of The Glow-Worm in the Chester Vase. Tied up in the closing stages there but had been left in front some way out and

Simon Holt (right) of the Channel 4 Racing team analyses the Derby runners and expects the beaten favourite for the Irish 2,000 Guineas to regain his status

good fifth behind King Of Kings in the 2,000 Guineas. Has pleased connections since, though is not guaranteed to stay and needs fast ground. High-Rise: Unbeaten colt who earned his place here when holding Sadian's challenge by a neck in the Lingfield Derby Trial. Should go on improving and has a useful turn of foot. King Of Kings: Beat Lend A Hand and Border Arrow in the 2,000 Guineas, but surprisingly announced a Derby runner

soon afterwards despite seem-

Hasmi: This son of the 1989 ing unlikely, both on racing Derby winner, Nashwan, ran a style and breeding, to stay a

mile and a half. Has been discarded by Michael Kinane in favour of Second Empire. Mutamam: Unlucky third to Saratoga Springs in the Racing Post Trophy at Doncaster last autumn. Blew hard after a disappointing second to Rabah in the Predominate Stakes at Goodwood on reappearance. Should strip fitter here but has had a rushed preparation. Sadian: At hig odds for a

third to Desert Prince in Irish

horse handled by three-time Derby-winning trainer Henry Cecil. Battled on well when a second to Risk Material in a may prove the best outsiders.

neck second to High-Rise in Group Three at Leopardstown the Lingfield Derby Trial. hardly looks good enough. Something to find on the book The Glow-Worm: A progressive but a nice colt with a willing at- colt this season, finishing titude and no stamina doubts. strongly when just failing to Saratoga Springs: Tough, if catch Gulland in the Chester somewhat lazy, individual who Vase last time having previously found plenty of reserves to win landed the Blue Riband Trial the Dante Stakes but had his limitations exposed when fourth to Dream Well in the French Derby last weekend. Second Empire: Looked a cracking prospect when winning Grand Criterium at Longchamp last year. Controversially ridden by Christy Roche when

provement expected. Sunshine Street: Runner-up on

over this course and distance. Cape Verdi: Put up outstanding performance when trotting up by five lengths from Shahtoush in the 1,000 Guineas and is reported in wonderful shape for this enterprising attempt.

Conclution: SECOND EM-PIRE can confirm the out-2,000 Guineas. Now the mount standing impression he made of Michael Kinane and hig im- as a two-year-old. Gulland should not be dismissed despite his unimpressive Chester win. all five starts so far. A recent while Courteous and Sadian



HYPERION

4.30 La Feeh

5.35 Shamanic

5.05 Papua

-	3 50(135 SR.CA BLANKA (20) (C) (Gerard Ducktraven Stud) A Newcombe 6 64 T Quint
_	entended green, yellow dieb 9 1054-5 TAYSEER (20) (Irks Jean Pith-Lores, Dely Meil) W Mair 4 9 4
	10 SSS-6 KENNIKST (24) (SF) (Dr U Saint Pessnotti) L Cazzeri 4 9 1 R Financi enterald green, dark blue hoop
	11 20-824 SUPERCAL (26) (C) (Celeconian Recing Scooty) () Elevorin 4.9.1W.R. Swinbus dark blue, white cross bells, checked alcover and cap
	= 11 deglared = SETTING: 5-2 holisheb, 9-2 Ramocz, 5-1 Almenhiarek, 6-1 Nidden Needow, 6-1 Alexal, Ben
	King, 11-1 Kenmint, 12-1 Supercal, 33-1 Tayases, 63-1 Silce Blanks, 150-1 Mount Holly 1997: Poler Prince 4 9 4 R Cochrane 14-1 (M Javis) charm (1) 8 cm FORMI GUIDE
of to 106 in the country.	Hidden Meadow won a 7f conditions states here on Derby Day 1997, looked p winning material on several occasions but didn't pick up a Group race until eleve

winning material on several occasions but didn't pick up a Group race until eleven days ago when he had Pits de Rispones a abort neck behind at Longohamp (7, good). The longer trip here could be against him. Almushtarrak and Remoos have come with their customary late challenges to some effect already the season, winning respectively a Group 2 at Sandown (Im., soft; by five lengths from Crystal Hearted) and a raised attiess handicap at York (Im., good). Good to firm ground may have been against Afrushtarak last time in the Lockings in which Beauchasep King (who had beaton Remoos travecustres of a length on boday's terms at Haydock the time before) inlated four places behind him. When we lest sew him - he has run twice in Dubel this year - Indidness was improving in leape and bounds, a listed race (by 1½ lengths from Almushtarak) here over today's trip forming the second log of his hat-trick. Alexast has run craditative over signify longer type at Newmarkst this spring, but will have to Improve. Taysaser has been fulled and sold since shaping well twelve months ago, while the previously-promising Kansales, unfortunately for those who backed her down to 6-4, didn't look in the mood at York last

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Quatane (204)	unfortunately for those who backed her down to 6-4, didn't look in the mood at York last
2 00 VODAFONE DASH RATED HANDICAP (Listed) C4	time. Selection: NTKHAB
2.00 VODAFONE DASH THE PRINT Value £27,650	
LANCIA CAE OUU SUUGE ST PRIMITY VALUE EXTREME	3.00 VODAFONE HANDICAP (CLASS B) 250,000
1 650-52 TO THE ROOF (16) (CD) (SP) (Mrs PW Harris) P Harris 69 6	3.00 VODAFONE HANDICAP (CLASS B) 150,000 added 1m 2f Penalty Value £31,360
essenti green, and assh, yellow steries and cap	
	1 304-22 MUSALSAL (16) (Maktourn Al Maktourn) B Hills 4.9 10
2 100-41 TADIEO (14) (I7) (JI R Good) M. Johnston 593	rojel blue, while charter, light blue cap, while star
royal bise, yellow sesti 6 34-034 BISHOPS COURT (7) (ID) (ID R Brutherion) Mrs. J Ferredon 4.9.2	2 26-24 FUTURE PERFECT (22) (D) (R D M Recing) P Cole 481
8 24-034 BISHOPS COURT (7) (D) (D R BROTHERDY) MIS 3 FEBRUARS	royal blue, yellow chearons, suiped elseves, queriered cap
	3 101-11 AMERICAN WHISPER (36) (D) (The Contederates) P Harris 4 8 18
	yellow, red diagnord, disholo on sleaves, yellow cap, red diamonds
APPROVED COMMENT AND THE COMMENT OF THE PROPERTY AND ASSESSMENT ASSESSMENT AND ASSESSMENT AND ASSESSMENT AND ASSESSMENT AND ASSESSMENT AND ASSESSMENT ASSESSMENT AND ASSESSMENT ASSESSMENT AND ASSESSMENT ASSES	4 0-2685 ALMOND ROCK (20) (C IT Recing Ltd) J Ferningse 669
	while, grey seems, clack blue cap, grey alar
clear blow, yellow arous belts, coller and cults, sarped cup	3 10562 SCHIG OF FREEDOM (14) (D) (Stalk) Mohammed J Goeden 4 3 6 L Datind 1 107
A ASS DANCED BRIGHTAWAY (S) (D) (G A BOOKY) IS MEDITED TO	
black, and braces and sleaves	manoon, while shower, mercon cash, while aller
- WE WARRED THE THE WARREN AND THE WARREN AND THE PARTY AN	6 100-1 KENAFRA (45) (CD) (G Palmer) BR Millman 489 KFallon 7 101
red, royal bite star, helved shows and star on CEP	black, while chevrons, pirk allower end star on while day
3 01825- ATLANTIC VIKING (219) (D) (SIF) (Attartic Recing) M Johnston 5.3.3	7 051-52 CONSPICUOUS (18) (D) (Mrs Jenny Hopidies) L.G. Cothell 6.3.6
aguartarine, black cap	yellow, targe black spots and allowers
464-20 REPERTORY (17) (D) (M 6 Saunders) M Sourcers 5 6 6	3 DODS4 ANOTHER TIME (10) (D) (D Sulhert) B Woods 8 3 4 Per Eddary 6 106
red and yellow (helwed), sleaves reversed, yellow coo, red spots	dark green and red (quartered), red sleaves, dark green armists, red cap
red and years (market), transaction of the second Table 12 101	9 840-51 SHADOOF (12) (D) (Mrs H Lery) W Max 4 8 0
	brown, white striped streves, white cap
	10 6010-8 FAHS (USA) (12) (D) (City Industrial Supplies Ltd) G Looks 67:10 IT Firench 10 119
H CANCER KILLSELLER CAD [11) (D) (CANCIUS MANA) + 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4	pow blue, forth blue cross of breaks
light blue, pirk sleeves, check cap	11 3-124 TOLLIOURS RWERA (126) (Extraor) J Pearce 37 10
2 -05001 MANGUS (14) (D) (Durebury Racing Stables) K Curringham-Brown 4 8 3 In Henry 1 99	
DOCK DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPER	yellow and light green diabolo, yellow slewest, quartered cap
THE PART OF THE PA	12 003042 SECRET BALLOT (7) (D) (RF) (Maked Al-Mutans) K Mattel 47 10M Baltel (4) 14 108
	white, light green spots, white aboves
A MINALY PARAMETERS (ST) (II) INMERTERS STOREGIST AND PRESENT OURSE OF ILLIANDS STOREGIST OF INCOME.	13 50-24 CARLYS QUEST (14) (D) (Aster Williams Transport) J Noville 4.7 10 _A McCarthy (5) 9.V 174
	esd, amersid green hoops, and alsever, emersid green stars
s area the impring cat (7) (D) is whiteler B Morgan 67 to	14 S200-0 SrLYER GROOM (14) (D) (Silver During Perinarahip) M Charmon 6 7 10
emerald green and light green stripes, emerald green strengs	while, emerald green triple climical, climicads on aleaves, entarglit green, cap, while distrands
_ 15 declared _	-14 decised -
Minimum weight 8st 3tb (3yo 7st 10tb). True handicap weights: Lamenta 8st 1tb, Kilcullen Lad 7st 11tb,	Michigum weight: 7st 10ts. Taxe handlesp weights: Toujours Fillers 7st 8tb, Secret Ballot 7st 7tb, Carlys
Wightin work on our prove that, and re-	Quest 7st 6fb, Sher Groom 7st 6fb.
Mangus 7sf 3th. BETTING: 11-2 Bishops Court, 7-1 Decosthenightmany, Speed On, 9-1 Atlantic Vilding, Klicoffen	BETTING: 9-2 Song Of Freedom, 11-2 American Whisper, 13-2 Fature Perfect, 7-1 Kewarra, 9-1
and, Lamerica, Tadeo, 10-1 Moon Strike, To The Roof, 12-1 Westcount Magic, The Limping Cat,	Correptionate, Musicinal, 11-1 Almond Rock, Another Time, Faite, Stradoof, 12-1 Carrys Queet, 22-1
PG, (2008) B. HOUGH STREET, TO THE WORLD THE WORLD	
16-1 Its All Relative, 20-1 Repartory, 25-1 Quatene, 50-1 Mangas	Secret Ballot, 33-1 Silver Groces, 40-1 Toujoure Riviers
997: Ye Maluk 6 9 2 Alex Gresses 15-2 (D Nicholis) drawn (10) 12 ran	1997: Chempagne Prince 4.3 12 C Lowther (7) 15-2 (P Harrie) drawn (14) 14 ran
FORM GUIDE	FORM GUIDE
Redec, Lamerita and Westcourt Magic were first, that and seventh at Haydock (St. good	Museled has come up equinst quality rivels this season when runner-up to insatiable
a a mile trans a modern construction of the control	and Fatthful Son, and he has plenty of weight in this. American Whisper bids for a hat-
rest tweeter to this studies strenging to the state of the case	trick, having been put up 71b for each of his soft-surface wine over this trip, at Kampton
Athenies I amonth (drawn 10 can take adventure is a vestionable given her landency to herg	and Navarandest fire langth from Distress Conflect with American Time Str. this series Al-

1997: Champagna Prince 4.3 2.2 C. Lowbert (7) 15-2 (Prince) grown (ki) in its Prince 4.3 2.2 C. Lowbert (7) 15-2 (Prince) grown (ki) in its Prince 4.3 2.2 C. Lowbert (7) 15-2 (Prince) grown (ki) in its Prince 4.3 2.2 C. Lowbert (ki) having been put up 7 bit or such of his soft-eurizant Whitesper bide for a hartick, having been put up 7 bit or such of his soft-eurizant Whitesper bide for a kidentick, having been put up 7 bit or such chartick, having been put up 7 bit or such chartic with over this thin, at Kempton and Newmarket (by length from Future Perfect, with Another Time 8th, this spring, Almond Rock was the runner-up at Kempton and has performed to the same level on Almond didn't elevery deliver, but he looked booled for success in the near future when second to First Knapper at Kempton two weeks ago, with Search Ballot fourth and Silver Groom eighth. Song Of Preedom should finish in front of that pair again bocause they are both out of the handicap proper (as are Toujousa Riviera and Carlys Queed, the variant has put in a series of improved efforts over the last 22 morths, writing four times, including at 20-1 over this course and distance on his reappearance (now 8th higher) when he best Present Arms by three lengths on soft ground. Conspicuous (third to Vorley at Goodwood lest time), Shedoof (up 7th for his Zelland Gold Cup win at Redcarl and that may be to their to their advantage. Selection: KEWARTA

3.45 DERBY STAKES (Group 1) (CLASS A) 2500,000 added 3YO 1m 4f 10yds Penalty Value 2598,690 (Card, page 14)

A Cochrane 2 123	4.30 VODAFONE SURREY STAKES (Listed) (CLASS A) £35,000 added 3YO 7f Penalty Value £21,444
O Pession 1 121	1 On-54 LA-FAAH (27) (D) (Hernden Al Mektourt) BHIIs 96R 198s 2 108 noyal bise, white episules, shiped cap
_Pat Eddary 4 119	2 3ff-30 MERLIN'S RING (27) (0) (Mr. R Plummer & Partners) I Belding 8 8
S Senders 19 713 (2001 Star	8 203-16 DALIMTING LADY (34) (D) (E Nagel-Enchson & T.) Delej R Hannon & 2 H Hughes \$ 177 pages and finit green diamonds, crange alseves, carge cap, light green star
Reld 3 116	4 T2-5 BINTANG (27) (Sudolphin) Seeed bin Surcor 6 T1
L Delicel 3 121	5 1-255 MISTER RAMBO (14) (Albott Reong Limited) B Meeten 8 11
J Fortune 6 85	8 2.421 VOLONTIERS (FR) (14) (0) (The Commonera) P Herrs 6 11 Pat Eddery 1 113 emerald green and black chack, black sleaves;

ten 11 SS 7 143-0 REGAL REVOLUTION (34) (S W E J Stack) P Wishwyn 8 10 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ J Lown 7 115 hinch, yellow eparatels and allower \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ J Robert 9 190 net and write classics, red severes, fair green start, and cap, fair green start and severes for \_\_\_\_\_\_ J Robert 9 213-04 ROYAL SHYNESS (27) (F) P Hubbard 9 Lowes 3 6 \_\_\_\_\_\_ Million 4 111 white, and date, and cap \_\_\_\_\_\_ Million 4 111 white, and date, and cap \_\_\_\_\_\_ Million 4 111 white, and date, and cap \_\_\_\_\_\_ Million 4 111 white, and date, and cap \_\_\_\_\_\_ Million 4 111 white, and date, and cap \_\_\_\_\_\_ Million 4 111 white, and date, and cap \_\_\_\_\_\_ Million 4 111 white, and date, and cap \_\_\_\_\_\_ Million 4 111 white, and date, and cap \_\_\_\_\_\_ Million 4 111 white, and date, and cap \_\_\_\_\_\_ Million 4 111 white, and date, and cap \_\_\_\_\_\_ Million 4 111 white, and date, and cap \_\_\_\_\_\_ Million 4 111 white, and date, and cap \_\_\_\_\_\_ Million 4 111 white, and date, and cap \_\_\_\_\_\_ Million 4 111 white, and date, and cap \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Million 4 111 white, and date, and cap \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Million 4 111 white, and date, and cap \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Million 4 111 white M

DEFTING: 2-1 Le-Fash, 4-1 Descring Lady, 5-1 Blocard, 6-1 Regal Revolution, Royal Strymats, 10-1 Volonitats, 12-1 Metho's Ring, 14-1 others

FORM GUIDE

Five of these ran in a classic over one mile last time out, repostly La-Feah and Mertic's Ring in the French 2000 Guinese (firm) at Longchems, Daumting Lady and Regal Revolution for the 1000 Guinese (firm) at Longchems, Daumting Lady and Regal Revolution for the 1000 Guinese (firm) at Longchems, Daumting Lady and Regal Revolution for the 1000 Guinese (good) at Newmarket, and Blattamp in the German 2000 (good) at Cologne. They finished townth, tenth, such, shrimenth and fifth respectively. Merlins Rings poor performance looked to be because he was too headstrong in the early stages; Regal Revolution was a 50-1 classics; the test at performed with credit. Earlier, La-Feah had Merlins Rings 1½, lengtits behind when he was besten a nack by Viztory Note in the Greenham States (7, sort) at Newbury. One day before that eithe same course, Daumting Lady had hapleed up from Wende in the fired Ourling (70), and, from this group of erstwhile classic challengers, she could be best suited by the conditions of today's nace. Mileter Rambo looks out of his depth and Welondiers has appeared only in maiden in rease so far, though admittedly he won his latest at Haydock (71, good to sort) by ten langitud at Newmartins last September, she hasn't recaptured that form yet this season but the stable has been out of sorts. They have a couple of numbers earlier at this meeting, so large an eye out for ulgas of a revival.

r ease contract in	Bus or a leavest		Selection: DAG	II MO DADI
5 VODAF B) £40,	ONE INTERN ,000 added 1	m 4f Penalty	TED HANDICA Value 224,369	CLASS
SE PLINNING ST	faq (USA) (41) (Fil	hard J Cohert P Mil	chel 487	K Cockers 3
4 SAUTEKEN	MARIE AND	13 A Patrick 495		HEED 3
M. PRIFRENT AS	raines (luisia) (1965), (CC)	SHIRN Prince Failed	(Salmani P Cola 593	T Come 5
I PRINCE OF	Densal (23) (JSG	ulkie) D Arbullanck 4	98	S MINISTONIA 6
	42 L (188) (NY T M )	7 & Mar E S. Robball	N Hatchison 592	
. SABADELA	(USA) (210) (P) (SE	with Michement J	Gooden # 80	L Demos 11
	1828) 1829 (DL N 1828)	PROPERTY IN 13 THEORET		
8 SHAFTOFL	KGHT (340 (CE) (Ti	Committee of Hard	<b>10 W B</b>	Selution 2 Y
D- WILLIE CON	00ER 210 (2) Fi	pricing the later	& Keleberry 63 10	_S Steders 7
O- NACHEAVEL	T (180) (D) (E A 9)	CJ Promick B G L N	DOG 437	T LOUPING 15
N TO YOU I EN		armenni il Himberi	467	_K MW001 43
O JAWAH (52)	(BIF) (Harried Al-Mu	tamet K March 487		新 (1) (1) (1)
	S RIMMING S RIMING S RIMMING S RIMMI	VODAFONE INTERN B) 240,000 added 1 5 RAMBIE STAR (SA) (1) (RE 5 HATRIC (16) (C) (Che Beth II PRESENT ARRIS (MA) (ES) (D) FRINCE OF DERIAL (24) (E) (G) S SLAMERS SPEL (ARR) (VY M) - SARADILLA (ISA) (210 (D) (S) - SARADILLA (ISA) (210 (D) (S) - SHAFT OF LIGHT (30) (CS) (TH) - SHAFT OF LIGHT (30) (CS) (TH) - WILLE CONCERT (20) (CS) - WALK (20) (TH) (CHE (18) (CS) - WALK (20) (TH) (CHE (18) (CS) - WALK (20) (TH) (TH) - ON STORE THE (TT) (TH) (EN) (EN) - ON STORE THE (TT) (TH) (EN) (EN) - TOURSE HERT (TT) (TH) (EN) (CS) (CS)	55 REMANDES STAB (DISA) (*1) (Fichard J Colon) F Mill 4 SHALTARE (19) (C) (CHO Bink) Min A Phrind 49 5: 24 PRESENT APRICE (USA) (SIS) (D) (H.R.N Prince Print 6 PRINCE OF DEMAL, (25) (L.S Garido) D Arboffmock 4 6 PRINCE STEEL (AND (M** M.W.S. Ajm E S.P.Azido) 7 PRINCE STEEL (AND (M** M.W.S. Ajm E S.P.Azido) 7 PRINCE STEEL (AND (M** M.W.S. Ajm E S.P.Azido) 7 PRINCE STEEL (AND (M** M.W.S. Ajm E S.P.Azido) 7 PRINCE STEEL (AND (M** M.W.S. Ajm E S.P.Azido) 8 PRINCE MILL (AND (M. Ajm E. Ajm Elling) 8 PRINCE MILL (AND (M. Ajm Elling) 9 PRINCE STEEL (AND (M** M. Ajm El	S PAROME INTERNATIONAL RATED HANDICAL B) 240,000 added 1m 4f Penaity Value 224,369 E RIMBER STAR (USA) (41) Ritherd J Colon) P Michail 4 87  5H THE (16) (C) (Cive Birth Mrs A Paintil 4 95 PRESENT ARMS (USA) (25) (D) 6H R N Pinton Pintil Salmert P Colo 59 3. F PRINCE OF DEBAL (25) (L9 Guide) D Artofinot 4 9.5 SUMMER STELL (USA) (27) (L9 Guide) D Artofinot 4 9.5 SUMMER STELL (USA) (CF) (D) (Colon) D Beneratin S 82 SUMMER STELL (USA) (T7) (D) (Locating Star) D Beneratin S 82 SHAFT OF LIGHT (N4) (CB) (Dis Colon) Length Nas & Kolonium 5 9.0 WILLE CONDUCTOR 200 (B) Transiting Star) Nas & Kolonium 5 3.10 HAJR (USA) (CF) (Dis Colon) C Burgot 4 97  PAPUL (25) From the China (B) (Dis Colon) Length A 97  Nas CHANGE (LIGHT) (Nas Beneratin B) Francis B) SL Moore 4 3.7  D STOLE FAIR (17) (Nas Beneratin B) 1 Nas 4 3.7

Minimum weight: 8st 7to, True handicap weights: Paper 8st 6th, Machinelli 8st 5th, State Fair 3st 5th, Nuryh Lasder 8st 7th, True handicap weights: Paper 8st 6th, Machinelli 8st 5th, State Fair 3st 5th, Nuryh Lasder 8st 2th, Jameh 7st 12th.

BETTING: 11-2 think, 6-1 Sabadilla, Shart Of Light, 7-1 Present Anter, Prince Of Desial, 8-1 Beneton, 9-1 Papers, 16-1 Jameh, Rough Lasder, Willie Conquer, 20-1 Romaing Stag, Shill-Sha, Shart Fair, 33-1 Blackhavelli, Stammer Spoil.

989: Anthen Story 4-3 11 L Dettort 3-1 fav Lord Hunforgton) drawn (3) B ran FO/Rhi GUIDE:

Sabadilla ended 1997 with a runnavery 6-length thumph over Taunt and Sheet Of Light (with Willie Conquer seventh) on his handicap detect in the November Herdicap (19-4) and bonousets: he has gone up 13th for that, but 48ll Socies a house to lecton with this season. However, the Gooden stable has got off to a very slow start this year. For horses whose well-being locies assured, there ser the lasd-fairs-out winness Prince Of Desial and, Heir. Prince Of Desial was unlacky on his respectance, faird to Kewerra bere legain in the start per city and then overcame trouble in running the basic Genericus Libra and For More Eyes. Only at York. That with was over 104, the furtheat he has tried, so today's trip is all plant, and stay has faced some very stiff traines during his carrier and makes his bandicity debut, as does 5th-Taisa. Papers could be a big threat, ladged on his second at Newborly (19-AC) and the Start Papers could be a big threat, ladged on his second at Newborly (19-AC) and the stay found the second at Newborly (19-AC).

The Queen won this last year, but her one-pecad Shuft Of Light needs a greater statum test.

14	- 05	VODAFONE DATA NETWORK HANDICAP (	CLASS C)
ŀ	J. 30	VODAFONE DATA NETWORK HANDICAP ( £35,000 added of Penalty Value £25,191	
ī	04-020	SUPERIOR PRESENT (26) (J.C. Passons) R Fahey 4 10 3	J Fortune 14
2	-63031	BOLD EFFORT (PR) (20) (D) (A.J. Richarch) K Cunningham-Brown 3B TI	Reid 2 B
.6	00-045	SELHURSTPARK FLYER (96) (CO) (C & A Dealers) J Berry 7 & 10	_C Lowther 10
4	40/0-0	DOMULLA (25) (CD) (A W Boon) T D Mccarthy 8 9 10	_S Whitecorts 5
5	4530-8	OGGL (TO) (D) (Styling Recing Ltd) P Makin 767	R Cockers 29
8	55400	HOPPING HIGGINS (27) (Painck Kelly & Partners) R. Harroon B 9 A	B Plaghee 12
7	14503-	FARAMONY LASS (224) (D) (J Rose) Lord Huntington 5 64	D (1000000 3
3	0-0000	JAYANINPEE (14) (D) (I A Balcing)   Balcing 799	L Debort 4
9	81-301	SUPPLEME AHGEL (14) (D) (Least Moved Partners) N Maggarage 33 to .	D (Supple 12) 3
10	0-0008	PRINCE DOME (11) (D) (G W Jones) M Wang 439	,Martin Dayer 1
π	0026-2	SHAMANIC (45) (D) (Aston House Stud) S Woods 6 69	<b>T Colo</b> to 7
12	162213	DIVINE MISS P (20) (0) (BP) (Also Spargo Lid) J Culinan 538	_D Symmey 17
13	0000-2	WATE BARR (20) (Three Beers Reging) B R Milmen 6 64	
Ñ.	13324	THE FUGATIVE (7) (CD) (J. A Redmand) P Mitchell 584	R Ffrench 16
15	033-60		C Recor 5
18	13150		4 Heavy 15
~		CHI LINE AND DAY ON LINE OF DELICATE 201	E Meeton 11

17 43-106 OH HEBE (23) (Mrs PW Havis) P Hants 38 1. - 17 declared 96\_TIMC: 6-1 Jayrampse, 7-1 Oggi, 15-2 Stamminic, 8-1 White Emic, 11-1 Bold Effort, Salburntonk
Phys., 13-1 Farmery Lass, Prince Donne, Supreme Angel, 14-1 Divice Mise-R, The Pitgather, 16-1
Hever Golf Rocket, Superior Premium, 20-1 Fast Passe, Hopping Higgse, Oh Hebs, 33-1 Donnélle
1967; Warring Tene 4 6 3 J Reid 14-1 (8 Meetran) death (2) 2 es
FORM GUIDE

Self-training time 4 o 3 J feet A-1 is a seen and seem of the seem

#### Punters' guide

2.00: A high draw is frequently de- HYPERION'S cisive here, with the fastest ground TV TIPS close to the stands rails. Lamarita has a fine chance from stall 12, though her tendency to hang left is

of concern with a right-to-left slope traversing the straight. KIL-CULLEN LAD, m contrast, often hangs to the right but this geiding's rails draw means that won't hinder him. Of more concern is a climb in the weights since his Redcar victory and overweight to be carried today. He won with something in hand at Redcar, however. Speed On is held up for a late challenge and, if he gets a clear run, most go close.

2.30: This event has often thrown up a long-odds winner, though this year it is hard to see past the more fancied runners. Usually it is best to be drawn low. Hidden Mendow, with Olivier Pestier in the saddle, seems sure to make a bold. bid from the inside stall. But the theory that this colt is best suited by 75 swings things in favour of AL-MUSHTARAK. On this horse's penultimate run, in a mile Group Two event in soft going at Sandown, he surged clear of his rivals to win by five lengths. Ray Cochrane's mount was only one of a handful of decent types who failed to shine at Newbury last time and must be forgiven that display. 

3.00: Backing a runner that needs QUEST are impossible to ignore.

After bearing a big field at Newmarket, this four-year-old was unlucky at Newbury. At Warwick last time, he lost many lengths when forced to take the scenic route on the home turn, but still got up to beat Thursday's Yarmouth winner, Brave Nobie. Jimmy Neville's run-ner has since climbed the weights, but the talented Adrian McCarthy's 3lb allowance can make the dif-

3,45: It is possible to knock the true value of GREEK DANCE's York victory - the runner-up, Capri, was racing over a trip palpably too short for him - but Walter Swinburn's mount still possesses strong credentials. Yesterday's Oaks triumph by Shahtoush may well incresse confidence in her stablemate's Second Empire. But fears that this colt will not settle dampen enthusiasm. Cape Verdi is a better proposition and she looks likely to give the selection most to do. High-Rise is the best outsider. 000

4.30: Denuting Lady is obviously a big contender here as this distance will suit her far better than the 1,000 Guineas mile. But this prize looks to be covered up for a late run is safely bound for LA-FAAH. Barry a risky proposition on this unique course but the claims of CARLYS fulfil the potential he displayed last SORSON.

15.7

pocana Marian Marian

	1988	89	-90	91	82	93	94	95	96	97
Fule of the fevourites:	4	1	14	6/9	9	10	1	11	2	4
Winner's place in bettin	g: D	-1	3 :	3	2	2	1_	3	0	9
Starting-prices:	11-1	54	7-1	9-1	8-1	15-2	7-2	14-1	t2-1	· 71-
Winner's charac	18	10	10	10	4	В	15	.7	В	_8
	or Sam	-	-	25 5	Secon	d Few	ota like	# +£	200	•
Profit or loss to £1 stak										_~
Percentage of winners										~
	placed	1st,	2nd o	r 3rd						-

3	.20	PRIX DE DIANE HERMES (Group 1) 3YO fillies Penaity Value 2141,414	BBC2
_	19	MINIOPETY 1985 (D) (K Abritán) P Bary 6.3	S Golfot 5 10.
2.	8-0	SLANNSARA (21) (1) H Age Kheri A De Royer Duore 8 0	P Coppie 8 .
3	7-111	ZAINTA (21) (D) (H N Ana Khara) A Do Royer Duore 6.3	Q Moses 3 71
4	11-62	LOVING CLAM (21) (3P) Stateout Al Makkouth Mine C Head 8 D	O Doleuze 3.11
5	1-132	ANOTHER DANCIER (FH) (26) (D) (J Byrig) 0 Sepulctre 60	T Thaiffee 4 10
6	-4215	AMERITALE (21) (D) (G County) D Security 9 0	.F Sanchez 11 10
7	53-50	PLAISIR DES YEUX (28) (M Debeushcher) P Demercentel 8 0	
6 2	13530	PREAK OUT (49) (0) (Ecude Fableri Quald) P Demarcanial 64	AJunk 1 -
9 2	-2263	GOOD ENOUGH (21) (Ecurie Fabler Quald) P Demorcastal 8 0	O Peeller 9 11
10 .	312-03	ResignT (7) (Narchus Ferniy) J Hammond 9 0	С Афицивии 7, 10
	5	BANGUISE (55) (R C Straus) R Collet 9 0.	D Boout 10 -

10.2	7 BELMONT STAKES (Grade 1) 3yo 1m £365,854	41 Penalty V
B1.8927	HAMARIAM HIGHWAY (Budget Stable) Kalby Walsh 80	
F2-1111	THOMAS JO & Mack & Team Valor) J Jerkens 80	C McC
151408	BASIC TRAINEE (L Gamboto & E Ocelo) J Romero 8 0	
337105	CHILITO (Lazy Lane Farms Inc.) H Motion 8 0	
-211363	PARADE GROUND (W Farish & S Hilbert) N Howard 8 0	
2-7356	CLASSIC CAT (G Garber) D Cross J- 93	Velez
11 113	LIMIT OUT (I Shields Jr) H.A. Jesters 8 0	JLS
1-82211	REAL QUIET (M Pegram) B Bellert 90	K Desorm
1-4544	HOT WELLS (So What's Nu Stable) T Amoss 8 0	C
7124	RAFFIES MAJESTY (Barrios, Laster & Prieger) H.J. Bond 90	a
12-1122	VICTORY GALLOP (Prestonwood Farm) W E Walden 8 0	G Str
-312221	YARROW BRAE (Mrs J Megnier & M Tabor) O W Lukes 60	M
1(5-63)	GRAND SLAW (R Baker & D Comstein & W Mech) D W Lukes: = 13 declared ~	30 DE

#### First show

Epsom 2.30

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Secret Ballot 22-1 20-1 25-1 20-1 25-1

Silver Groom 45-1 40-1 33-1 33-1 33-1 Bujours Riviera 40-1 40-1 40-1 40-1 33-1

C Const. H William Hill, L Lackwolers, S Startley, T Toler

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1 On	13-2	8-1	7-1	6-1	7-1
isa Lud	7-1	9-1	9-1	8-1	94
ib di	94	9-1	94	94	B-1
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c Viking	_6·1	10-1	<u>8-1</u>	10-1	9-1
Strike	10-1	10-1	10-1	10-1	11-1
	11-1	8-1	_91	52	9-1
Roof	11-1	10-1	10-1	10-1	11-1
out Magi	c 12-1	12-1	10-1	11-7	12-1
implog Ca		10-1	12-1	14-1	124
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itary	20-1	16-1	25-1	15-1	164
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111	50-1	50-1	50-1	40-1	50-1

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	4	40		Epsom S.	05		
				House	C	н	Ť
			1	Hajr	11-2	6-1	114
H	L	7	}	Sabadilla	5-1	8-1	8-1
52	11-4	11-4	•	Shaft Of Light	8-1	6-1	84
9-2	41	41	•	Benston	64	<u> 6-1</u>	7.1
84	41		l	Present Atms	6-1	7-1	7-1
		8-1		Prince Of Denial	8-1	7-1	13-2
<u>51</u>	6-1	<u>5-1</u>		Prepara	10-1	6-1	81
8-1	8-1	62		daunh	14-1	16-1	16-1
<u>8-1</u>	7-1	<b>8-1</b>	1	Book Leeder	14-1	16-1	16-1
<b>8</b> -1	14-1	9-1		Runding Stag	20-1	20-1	291
24	3-1	23-1	,	State Feir	20-1	28-1	20-1
40-4	33-1	33-1		Wille Conquer	16-1	1B-1	201
50-)	404	50-1		Stal-Tales	10-1	20-1	251
150-1	150-1		1	Summer Spell	33-1	33-1	251
H-1	198-	150-1	1	Machine	40-1	33-1	93.L

<b>Control</b>	14	4 1	2-4	3-1	22-1	State Feir	20-1
	25	-1 4	94	33-1	33-1	Wille Conquer	16-1
a Blanta	40		D-5	404		Shill Take	10-1
	_		_		50-1	Summer Spell	33-1
unt Holly	150		_	150-1	150-1	Machinett	40-1
Each way	a lith ib	e odds,	place	4 1, 2	3	Each way a	quality the oc
som	7 00	_	_				
						Epsom :	5.35
<u> </u>	C	14	L	s	T	Home	
Of Freedo	<b>m</b> 9-2	92	84	9-2	<b>H</b>	Jayancpus	
ricas White	mr 8-1	64	11-2	5-1	5-1	Oggl	
ne Perfect	74	15-2	7-1	13-2	5-1	Shamanic	
in a	7-1	7-1	7-1	74	13-2	White East	
miles es	20-1	6-1	81	114	10-1	Seltmentpark Fi	yer.
	B-1	11-1	91	8-1		Bold Ellort	
used Rock	11-1	12-1	_	_	<u>B-1</u>	Foreney Lane	
ther Tiese			<b>D-1</b>	12-1	12-1	Suprema Angel	
	<u> 10-1</u>	10-1_	12-1	<u>#-1</u>	10-1	Divine Miss-P	
<u></u>	10-1	11-1	10-1		12-1	Prince Dome	
<u>dool</u>	12-1	10-1	11-1	11-1	10-1	The Rugadine	
lys Classi	22-1	12-1	2-1	11-1	14-1	Hever Golf Roc	
		_				1	

Epsom 5.35		
Home	C	ė
Jayan pre	13-2	162
Oggi	7-1	70
Sharene:	15-2	B4i
Windon Estat	15-2	44
Seltnestpark Flyer	11-1	11.7
Bold Ellort	12-1	10.
Fernesy Lans	12-1	127
Supreme Angel	12-1	12-1
Obtoo Miss-P	14-1	14-(
Prince Dome	14-1	14
The Rugadine	14-1	144
Hover Golf Rocket	16-1	16-1
First France	15-1	20-1
Ole Hebe	16-1 .	31
Superior Premium	16-1	20 1
Hopping Higgins	20-1	28-1
Dometila	33-1	\$7-1
Each way a quarter the or		224

2.45 EBF LEYLAND MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,000 added 2YO Sf CLAUDIUS R Fishey 8 0 ... GLANWYDDEN J Berry 9 0.... HIGH ESTEEM M A Buckley 6 SARSON (3) R Harmon 8 0.... TRINITY M British 8 0.... \_G Carter 19 3 BOLLIN ROBER HEATHYARDS TEPLE D McCan 8 6 ...... W J O'Consor 11 ...G Hind 4 = 11 dyclored = BETTING: 5-2 Serson, 4-1 Glerwyddyn, 9-2 Shining Desert, 5-1 Sollin Roberty, 10-1 Claudius, 18-1 High Esteens, Titally, Heedryards Tipple, 20-1 others

sion, 4-1 Perachembure, Wister Benjamin, 5-1 Stage Whie-

3.15 ROTHMANS SERIES HANDICAP (CLASS C) £10,000 added 1m 30yds 

13 POHEST GLADE IN Dritish 39 Differency (7) 5
14 31 LADY LAIREN (12) GWoodward 69 Linwento 9
15 3 SAFFHON (55) J Glorer 3 9 R Mullen (3) 4
15 declared BETTING: 4-1 Courtecom, 6-1 Gryp Stiffee, 6-1 Lety Lauren, 6-1 Gypsy,
Saffron, 16-1 Master Tirol, Edmo Heighte, 12-1 others

2.50 KNOWSLEY HANDICAP (CLASS D) 25,000 added 7f

4.10 JOHN OF GAUNT STAKES (Listed) (CLASS A) £18,000 added 7f 30yds 

- 7 declared --BETTING: 2-1 Swise Lant, 7-2 Jo Melt, 4-1 Fire Dome, 6-1 Cool Edge, 7-1 Nigrashre, 8-1 Cayman Kal, 12-1 Vegabond Chanteuse

9 ZANDSKA 11 CECT 58 - 9 declared BETTING: 11-4 Zakoskov, 4-1 Niurghen, 6-1 Herwedeth, Shape Shifter, 6-1 5.15 PENNY LANE HANDICAP (CLASS C) £7,750 added 2m 45yds 

4.40 HALSALL MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) 25,000 Bdded 3YO 1m 30yds

9 3900-4 WINSTON (22) J Befriel 5 7 12 R Wission (5) 17 20 0408-9 77/REE 7ENNEERS (26) D Nichole 8 7 10 8 Malony 1 B - 20 declared - 20 declared - BETTING: 6-1 Smokey From Capilace, Mappen Focks, Winston, 16-1 Safey	4.45 ST JOHN AMBULANCE MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,000 sdded 5f
Any. Thoton, Gymerak Premiera, Inclination, 12-1 others	2 032 EAST WINDS (10) P Wellwyn 389
3.20 WORTH)NGTON STAKES (CLASS C) 28,000 added 1m 2f 60yds	4 320-00 ATLANTA (15) G Woodward 68 9 L Newton 9 5 -03905 D'MARTI (3) C Booft 669 K Hodgeon 1
1 4284 RIVER NORTH (276) (D) Lady Herries 8 8 7	6 06 HALSE COPSE (14) J 6 Smyth-Osbourne 5 8 6R Pertiem 10 7 5 JASHINE (23) R Guest 6 69
6 3403-3 INSEPARABLE (20) Lady Herries 6 6 12	— 19 declared — BETTING: 4-1 East Winds, 9-2 Nichtes, 8-1 Jasmins, 6-1 Rich Choics, 7-1
HETTING: 11-10 Redbridge, 7-2 Muttleoloured, 5-1 River North, 11-2 Proper Blue, 16-1 Silenia, Inseparable	filta's Rock Ape, 6-1 Love is Visicome, D'Marti, 12-1 others
4.15 DONCASTER EXHIBITION CENTRE HANDICAP (C) 28,000 added 1m 4f	5.20 TATTENHAM CORNER' HANDICAP (D) £5,000 added fillies & mares 6f
1 5112- JASEUR (USA) (225) (8P) J Gooden 5 10 0	1 00-202 RICH IN LOVE (12) (D) C Cystr 4 to 3
4 1000 DIAMOND FLAME (23) P Herts 4 6 10	4 0-0006 MOUCHE (21) (D) Mrs J Rimadon 4 9 6
7 1304-0 BAY OF ISLANDS (33) D Monte 3 62	7 00-500 SWEET BETTSIE (10) K Burke 4 66 M Feeton 4 6 000-06 TIME TO TANGO (18) G M Moore 5 8 3 J Carroll 13
9 400-01 AL'S ALER (22) (D) W Mur 59 9 Sophie Mitchell 3 10 44-000 ZOOM UP (22) M Heaton-Elle 4 8 11 AC	9 00-052 DOMMNELLE (16) (D) (DF) T Entertry 6 61
BETTP(G: 9-4 Juseur, 5-1 Feblad Light, 6-1 Shook, 7-1 Al's Albi, 8-1 Tricavor, inversario, 12-1 Bay Of Jalands, 16-1 others	BETTING: 4-1 Dominatile, 8-1 Ross in The Reguly, 6-1 Rich in Love, Mouche, Time To Tenge, 6-1 Sally Green, Share Frairy, 16-1 others.

5.20 TATTENHAM CORNER' HANDICAP (D) £5,000 added fillies & marcs 6f
1 00-202 RICH IN LOVE (12) (D) C Cycler 4 10 3
2 300-00 SALLY GREEN (43) (D) C Wall 4 6 10
8 0-0000 DESERT LYNX (12) (D) T Watton 593
4 0-0006 MOUCHE (21) (D) Mrs J Ramedon 4 96
5 000302 FUNS IN THE FAMILY (10) (D) G McCourt 68 11 D Hurrison 7 B
6 -00290 GOLD EDGE (16) (D) E tross 4 6 4
7 00-500 SWEET BETTSRE (10) K Burke 4 66
6 000-06 TIME TO TANGO (18) G M Moore 5 83 J Cerroll 13
9 00-052 DOMINELLE (16) (D) (DF) T Easterby (161 R Winston (5) 6
10 551002 RIVER ENSIGN (5) (b) W Brisbourne 57 12 C Cogen (7) 6
BETTRIG: 4-1 Dominate, 8-1 Runs in The Rendy, 6-1 Rich in Love, Mouche, Time To Tango, 6-1 Sally Green, Alver Eneign, 10-1 others

=		
Wo	rcester	
	HVDE	BION

2.26 Look in The Mirror 2.55 into The Swing 3.25 Ma Barnicle 4.05 Spunide 4.35 Whirtawhile 5.10 Gower-Slave 5.40 Waterlaw GOING: Good to Firm.

futorg run-in.

gCourse is on the A443 by the River Severn. Wordester (Foregate St) station in ADMRSSION: Members £13; Tattersails £10; Course £15; OAPS £275. CAR PARIC Free; picnic area parking £3. gc. LeADMRS TRADIERS. It Ploe 42-26 £335%, D Nicholson 27-73 (37%), G Batiding 17-76 (224%), P Hobbs 16-104 (54%), et LeADMR JOCKEYER. A Meguine 23-18 (183%), M A Pitzgerald 15-98 (14%), W Maraton £2-44 (83%), T J Murphy 8-46 (174%). g-FAVOURITES: £24-58 (351%).

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Woolcostooloo (225), Major Twist (225). Ludo (405), Professor Page (5.00)

2.25 BRANSFORD NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS F) £2,400 added 3m 

2.55 NEWALL MEASUREMENT NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,000 added 2m 4f 110yds

3.25 HADZOR HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS F) \$2,575 added 2m 

4.05 BLISS GATE MAIDEN HURDLE (CLASS E) (DIV I) £2,900 added 2m 4f 4.35 BLISS GATE MAIDEN HURDLE (CLASS E) (DIV II) \$2,900 added 2m 4f 

05/P6- MR JAMBOREE (20) (CD) | Williams 12 12 6 ... 2231- STEVE FORD (17) (C) C Morlock 6 11 4 ........

Minimum weight: 10st. True handicap weights: Prolessor Page 9st 5lb, Conne's Croit Bet 6b. BETTING: 4-1 Seven Meed, 8-1 Steve Ford, Nove Charge, 7-1 Grown-Steve, 8-Spring To Glory, 10-1 Some Day Soon, Snow Board, Professor Page, 12-1 other 5.40 GRIMLEY STANDARD OPEN NH FLAT RACE (CLASS H) £1,500 added 2m 1- WATERLAW (12) (D) P Bowen 4 11 8

- ARRYS AWAY (17) M Pipe 5 11 4

- BEAU CASTLE T Casey 3 11 4

- CLEEVE CASTLE (Tr) D O'Neil 6 11 4

- COUNDR MACLEOD Mrs J Pirrum 6 11 4

- COUNDR MACLEOD Mrs J Pirrum 6 11 4

- LORD MM-REE (80) P Nichols 3 11 4

- LET'S GO Mrs E Heath 6 11 4

- LORD BUSTER (72) 6 Balding 5 11 4

- SHALAMES PRINCE T McCloven 5 11 4

- BALLAKTH D BISTRING 3 10 18

- BALLAKTH D BISTRING 3 10 18

- BALLAKTH D CONSTRUCTION 1 10 13 \_M Checks ... 8 Ponts (7) BANJO HILL (29) C Weedon 4 10 13.

BA SERENDIPTTY (173) M Laher 5 10 13.

BLUE CHEFTAIN I, Grandck 4 10 13.

CHACEL EY LASS G Yardey 6 10 13. 5.10 HALLOW HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,000 added 2m 7f 110yds

# Shahtoush whoosh leaves Dettori standing

By Richard Edmondson at Epsom

THE record book will show, primarily, that Shahtoush won the Oaks here yesterday. In fact, it was Michael Kinane.

If the Irish filly and her three-quarter length victim, Bahr, ever meet again it would be a bold punter indeed who predicted a similar outcome. The difference between the two yesterday was oot their respective abilities. Rather it was the level of assistance they received from their confederates in the saddle.

Frankie Dettori must have thought the Classic was his as he eased Bahr towards the laders a furlong and a half from home. Certainly, his main market rival, Midnight Line, was beginoing to show the fatigue of the beaten. However, the Italian was swiftly jumped by the allcy mugger form of Kinane. Dettori fought on from there hm the decisive move had been made and checkmate was inevitable. In the end the two fillies were separated by the three-quarters of a length Kinane had stoleo in his mind. "I think I snuck up oo

Frankie a little bit and gave him a surprise," Kinane said. "I covered and he was going sweet, so I suddenly shot by him. He may not have expected me to be going so well behind and when quickened I really let her go."

It had been a tactical masterclass from Kinane throughout. He refused to get involved with a pacemaker, Trophy Wife, who probably broke the course record for the first five furlongs: he refused eveo to get involved in the shuffling behind the leader, "The plan was to ride her patiently and she dropped har head immediately coming out of the gate so I left it there," the Irishman said. "I could see Midnight Line and some of the others getting into a fight and I was happy not to be involved. It suited me for her to be at the back to start." Her the Irish Oaks, which is also the position at the cod did not dis-

please him either. This was yet another major training triumph for Aldan the Oaks had fingers pointing O'Brien, who doesn't give quotes. He just takes Classics. This was his second British but there was as much succour going of the season following, for Godolphin: Bahr's owners King Of Kings' 2,000 Guineas. today saddle up Cape Verdi.



Steering clear: Pat Eddery guides the grey Silver Patriarch through from the rear of the field to beat Swain (blue silks) and Ebadiyla in yesterday's Coronation Cup at Epsom

In between he has also collect- who is considered much the su- the filly would bring up the rear sort of momentum that knocks a St Leger winner it could have for much of the contest. That down walls, "I knew I would be heen the slog up to Cup dised the Dante Stakes with perior. In addition, the 1,000

Saratoga Springs, a hat-trick which makes him the leading trainer in Britain this year.

Shahtoush will now go for target for Bahr. Dettori has five weeks to plot his revenge.

As a pointer to the Derby, everywhere. The Ballydoyle camp can hardly be downcast,

Guineas winner had Shahtoush five lengths back at Newmarket so the form looks solid.

The signal to another fancied Blue Riband horse, Greck Dance, was hardly dazzling after the Coronatioo Cup, however. His Newmarket galloping partner Nicole Pharly not only finished last in the Group One contest hut also became 20 lengths detached from the penultimate horse.

It had not looked as though

slot appeared safely booked for Silver Patriarch. And he won.

The grey exhibited in the Derby last season that he is not an animal who scoots around these tight corners of Surrey pleasingly. From the outset yesterday Pat Eddery was jumping around on his saddle so energetically that it was easy to assume someone had slipped a thistle into his breeches.

Once Silver Patriarch hit the straight, however, he built up the for Silver Patriarch's options. As noon whom he might be facing.

Newton Abbot

HYPERION

6,20 Afon Alwen 6.50 Klondike Charger 7.20

King Of Sparta 7.50 Bon Voyage 8.20 Casplan

GOTNG: Good to Firm (Good in places).
Quefi-hand, sherp, course with short nun-in.
QCourse is N of town on A360. Newton Abbot station 1m. AD-MISSSION: Testersalls EXI; Course EX, Accompanied under-Tis free.

MISSION: Technically 110, Course 25, Accompanied under-tox size. CAR PARK: On rails \$150, ternshider fire.

QUEADING TRANSERS: M Pipe 86-306 (281%), P Hobbs 50-160 (313%), R Frost 23-169 (113%), A Newcombe 10-45 (222%), QUEADING JOCKEYS: B Power 15-151 (26%), N Wilstermon 12-45 (287%), M A Fizzgerald 11-72 (153%), A Maguire 10-48 (203%), QRAYOURITES: 259-586 (44%), BLINGERD FIRST TRIES Sharp Embrace (550), Kinlogh Gale (vicens) 2781, Dans Do 6520.

Beluga 8.50 Woodstock Wanderer

type of horse and this isn't the best track in the world for him," Eddery reported. "When I got within four lengths of them before the dip, I thought I'd pick them up because we know from last year that he does fly up the hill. He really picked up and

struggling because he's a lazy

them three lengths." The double doors now open

went by good horses quick. On

a fair track he'd have beaten

tances for him. Now he can realistically be primed for the

"It is really down to a question of optimism and Pat's opinion that we brought him back to a mile and a half," John Dunlop, the winning trainer, said.

We never even entered him for the Ascot Gold Cup and I think we will have to go to Ascot oow for the King George." We will get an idea this after-

7.50 AMATEURS SELLING H'CAP SKY

### **Magnier and Tabor** alistically be primed for the glamour events over 12 furlones. tryTriple whammy

SUE MAGNIER and Michael ability to stay. The Belmont Tabor could spoil the party on catches this type of horse that both sides of the Atlantic today. Not only are their King Of Kings, Second Empire and break." Saratoga Springs the main obstacles to an emotional win for Walter Swinburn on Greek his jockey, Kent Desormeaux. Dance or a historic one for the filly Cape Verdi in the Derby, within a whisker of winning the hut the owners could also throw Triple Crown last year with a spanner in the works in New Silver Charm, who won the

York where Real Quiet at-

horse in 20 years to complete the US Triple Crown by lifting the Belmont Stakes.

The Tabor/Magnier colours will be carried by the Illinois Derby winner Yarrow Brae, who could give D Wayne Lukas a fourth win in the race in five in the Belmoot. years after Tabasco Cat (1994). Thunder Gulch (1995) and Editor's Note (1996).

"Real Quiet is the one to said. "This is a big step up for us but Yarrow Brae has got the pedigree and the combination

5.48: 1. DOWER HOUSE (W Pyen) 14-1; 2. Manes Muse 20-1; 3. Morstorium 5-1.11 ran. Incl. Md. (W Jarvis, Newmarked, 9-2 ias Benevanus, Totac 1577; 5350, 535, 5190. DF: 522250. CSF: 624414. Thoast 545008.

is improving - he fits the mold and maybe we can catch a

Real Quiet is described as "98 per cent certain" to win by Boh Baffert, his trainer, came

tempts to become the first RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Cape Verdi (Epsom 3.45) NB: Speed On (Epsom 2.00)

Kentucky Derby and Preak-

ness Stakes and finished second The weekend's other Classic,

tomorrow's Prix de Diane (French Oaks) at Chaotilly, will be an all-French affair with the beat but he's no cinch because Aga Khan's Zainta the shortthat is an elusive crown, Lukas priced favourite. John Dunlop's Taipan and Paul Cole's Yorkshire are among nine acceptors for the Grand Prix de of great tactical speed and the Chantilly on the same card.

(N Trider, Maiton), Tota: £1900; £220, £880, £4.70. DF: £194.0. CSF: £330.29. Theast: £7.99.28. Trio: £181.70. S.25: 1. FRISKY LADY (S Finnemore) 4-1; 2. One To Go 5-1; 3. Klonge Check 11-1; 8. rian, evens tev Critical Air (4th). 11/h, 1. (T Easterby, Maiton). Tota: £480; £210, £140. DF: £600. CSF: £1985.
Piecepot: £553.70. Quadipot: £480.20. Piecepot: £553.70. Quadipot: £480.20.

20:1. HUNT HILL (G Duffeld) 11-10 fav; 2. Mises All Alone 9-1; 3. Benk On Him 9-1 15 ran. ½, 2% (Str Mark Prescut); Totac 170; \$100, 5290, \$450, DF: \$290, CSF \$1049, Tricast: \$2283, Tric: \$2720, NF: Zuyet.

£1049, Thosat: 25293, Tric: 22720, NR: Zuryet.
2,53; 1. MANILLENC (Martin Dwyer) 5-1;
2. Mister Aepocto 5-2; 3. Militar's Star 20-1
10 ram. 9-4 tav. Jernab. ½, 5, 5M Pipe). Tota:
1530; 2300, £110, £250, DF: £330, CSF:
1545; Trio: £8400, NR: (Apparour.
3,25; 1. HOLY SMOKE (R Winston) 9-2
[t tav; 2, Misconduct 10-1; 3, By Jay 10-1
18 ram. 9-2 jt fav Dancing Em. 1½, 2, U L
Eyre). Tota: £400; £120, £140, £540, DF:
£7770, £55; £9437, Tricest: £408,8, Tric
£540; £5694 to Epsom 3,45 today, NR; Rock
River.
3,55; 1, MR PARADISE (R Studholme)

3.55: 1. MR PARADISE (R Studholme) 6-1; 2. Sparkling Henry 25-1; 3. Keiley Goddees 8-1, 13 ram. 5-2 fev The Munrols 2, sh-hd. (R Cowell, Yote: £1080; £250, £1150. £260. DF: £25560. CSF: £10857. Tircast:

£158162. Trio: £153.80; £17554 to Eg

#### ewmarket

HYPERION 40 Mardrew 7.05 Cherished 7.35 Royal Anthem 8.05 Quiz Show 8.35 Accelerating 9.05

CIVIC: Good STALLS: Stands side DRAW ADVANTAGE: None.

Officint-hand course with 1m 2f straight.

GCourse is SW of fown on A1304. ADMISSION: Grandstand &
Paddock £10 (15 to 25-year-olds £5); Family Enclosure £3. CAR

PARK: Members £1; rest free.

eLEADING TRAINERS: H Cacil 25-79 (261%), L Curosni 18-107

(163%), J Gooden 17-112 (15.2%), R Hanson 18-171 (9.4%),

eLEADING JOCKEYS: Pet Eddory 37-172 (215%), L Delbori 35-167

(21%), R Hille 18-111 (16.2%), K Hanson 18-65 (231%),

eFAYOURITES: 183-497 (36.8%).

PRAYDURITES: 183-497 (36.6%). BLINKERED FIRST TIME: None.

1	LONG-DR	LANCE HOUNELS SMOOT CHARTER found The Sec House
	6.40	NGK LADIES DERBY (H'CAP) SKY
ı	1 : 050-0	MUNTADI (14) D Crepmen 5 tl 7
I	2 : 43300-	AUGUSTAN (225) (D) S Golings 7 ti 8Jame Atlenc 25
	3 02-654	UNCLE DOUG (7) J.L. Eyrs 7 fl B
	4 560045	MARDREW (5) K Wingrove 4 TI 4
	5 . 600-00	
ı	8 30505	
	7 . 03-454.	MMOSA (12) M Pilman 5 10 10
ļ	8,000-06	FOURDANED (37) TO Mocarity 5 TO 8
	B : 001D3	SECREM MYSTIC (12) (SF) P Murry 6 10 5 Mins L Grown (7) 24
	10 00-804	JINGOIST (15) JA Harris 4 10 2
ł	7 0004	NON VINTAGE (17) M Chapman 7 10 2 Miles P Robert 19
ļ	0/40-0	NON VINTAGE (17) M Creptur 7
1		SWEET TRENTINO (14) (C) M Tate 7 10 1 Miles E Folices (7) 5
ĺ	14, 400/00	TOURSTON LADY SEG J. Wherton 8 'DO J. Mine B Getel forms (5) 17 8
	15 02500	
ľ	5 45300	
i	7 63UF6	
	18 351140	
	2060005	
	21 05000/	
	22 00090-	
ı	23 - 80000	
	24,300-00	
	25 30656	
		THE RESIDENCE OF S. P. S. P. S. P. S. L. S. M. M. Morte (5) 8

26 - 0/30-6. NR NIDRIAHTY (31) (D) S R Bovering 7 8 3. Airs Ni Niorths (5) 8
27 22-040 CONTEC'S LEGEND (9) (D) J Pearce 8 8 3. Lighte Pearce 8
28 006-6 MARYS PROTI (12) S Golfing 4 9 3 Airs C burser (7) 2
3 - 50500 PARCINOMASIA (87) J L Harts 8 8 3. Airs C Durwoody (7) 4
30 56000 MALIRANGI (43) 8 Marray 7 0 3. Airs C Durwoody (7) 4
30 56000 MALIRANGI (43) 8 Marray 7 0 3. Airs C Durwoody (7) 4
30 56000 MALIRANGI (43) 8 Marray 7 0 3. Airs C Durwoody (7) 4
46minum weight: 8st 55. True handloop weights. Contact's Legend Set, Narye
Path Set, Patronomesis Ber 10b., Maurangi Ber 10b.
BETTING: 7-1 Sen, Alert, 8-1 Minnon, 10-1 Uncle Doug, Siberten MysIlc, 12-1 Marchese, Fourdanied, Dignast, 14-1 others 

dom, Seminare, 10-1 ragit Comm, 12-1 Commit America, 14-1 downs
7.35 BAILEYS FAIRWAY STAKES (Listed) (A) £16,500 3YO 1m 2f  1 1- TALEBAN (209 L CARREST 9 1
BETTINS: 5-4 Royal Anthon, 2-1 Killmanjaro, 9-2 Sensory, 9-1 Yalubara, 20-1 Diamond Wishe
8.05 EBF HANDICAP (CLASS D) SKY  1 36022 CARAMBO (7) (0) JL Sye 97 J Wayner 3 2 3300 COMPOSITION (241) M Arviso 98 PRobinson 1 3 540-42 GUZ SHOW (12) R Harrison 0.5 R Haghes 10 4 2810-3 MANAME CALDIDE (21) J Tolkr 01 23 Senders 8 5 244 MALLITEX (22) (367 M South 9.9 W R Swinfourn 11 6 080 GANDOURA (USA) (222) J Gooden 9.0 R Hills 12 7 0430-4 SMA (123) Chayer 0.0 R Fallon 8 8 0-22 WORTHY THE EFFORT (458 M Tomplers 8 12 13 Biggs 8 8 0-0043 MCHALONG (5) (D) (6 British 8 11 J Biggs 8 8 0-0043 MCHALONG (5) (D) (6 British 8 11 J Biggs 8) 8 0-0043 MCHALONG (5) (D) (6 British 8 11 J Biggs 8) 9 0-0040 WALARA (22 8 Meetines 8 4 Pat Eddary 2 1 064 DELPHIC WAY (24) G Baiding 8 2 S Drowns 4 12 40-004 TALMIL (10) D Morits 8 9 D O'Tboochoe 3 12 55-000 CARE (176 122) P Walnyn 7 13 J Lower 7 14 4050-1 MCUNTAIN MAGIC (21) (D) (1 Fronch Davis 7 12 N Cadista 13 BETTING 4-1 Millionts, 9-2 Outz Spoe, 7-1 Carrenbo, 8-1 Millions Claude,
Gendours, Mountain Magic, 12-1 Inchaloog, Care Kits, 14-1 others
8.35 FRANK BUTTERS MAIDEN STAKES (D) 25,000 270 TBles 67  3 ACCELERATING (USA) (12) J Gordon 5 Ti
BETTING: 5-2 Warnebe Grand, 11-4 Accelerating, 3-1 Spirit Willing, 7-1 Spirak, 3-1 Obser Ball, 20-1 Optional, Subsist, 25-1 others
9.05 CECIL BOYD ROCHFORT MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £6,000 3YO 1m 2f  CHARMED EXISTENCE M STUDE B 1 D Holland 4  OF PARTY THREE (7) B C Williams B 11 A MCG000 7
SEADCH PARTY L Current 8 11 D Young (7) 2

GREY BUTTONS K Buth 86 ...

dom, Senteron, 10-1 High Couch, 12-1 Colling Assenta, 14-1 others

- 5 Quotared - BETTING: 5-4 Royal Anthon, 2-1 Killionnjaro, 9-2 Securory, 8-1 Taleben, 20-1 Diamond White
8.05 EBF HANDICAP (CLASS D) SKY
1 36022 CARAMBO (7) (D) J L Syre 9 7 J Warver 5 2 33100 COMPOSITION (241) M Javis 0 8 P Robinson 1
3 540-42 QUIZ SHOW (12) R Harrish 0.5
4 28'0-3 MADAME CLAUDE (21) J See 01
6 080- GANDOURA (USA) (222) J Goeden 9 0 H Hele 12
7 0430-0 SADA (120) C Deger 00
8 0-0043 MICHALONG (5) (D) M Sittain 8 TI
10 400-00 YULARA (2) 8 Meeten 8 4 Pat Eddary 2
11 05-8 DELPTIC WAY GRIS CHARTY 8 2 0 O'Clonchoe 5
13 63-000 CARE KITE (12) P Waleryn 7 13 J Lows 7
8 0-23 WCHALONG (5) (D) M British B 11
Gendoura, Hountain Hagic, 12-1 installog, Oare Kits, 14-1 others
8.35 FRANK BUTTERS MAIDEN SKY
2 COMPTON AMOUNT G A SUBST & II
4 OPTICEUL B Mechan B 11 WR Selborn 2
1 3 ACCELERATING (USA) (12.3) GORDIN 6 11. LOBRIN / COMPTON AMBER 6 A Buller 8 11. W Ryan 8 OBAN BALL R Herror 8 11. R Hughes 8 OPTIONAL 8 Methan 8 11. W R Switches 2 ROSE OF MOONCORN J Burles 9 11. M Reserver 3 SARRAM J Duriso 8 11. M Reserver 3 SARRAM J Duriso 8 11. K Fallon 1 K Fallon 1 SULALAT R Amstrong 8 11. R Hillis 4 Meanware CRANN (15.0) RED L Meaning 9 10. R Hillis 4 Meaning C CRANN (15.0) RED L Meaning 9 10. R Hillis 4 Meaning C CRANN (15.0) RED L Meaning 9 10. R Hillis 4
7 SPIRIT WILLING O Loder 8 11
B SULALAT RAMBRONG 8 11 HOSend 9 11 D HoSend 0
0 4 MANNAS: Grand (12) per 3 recents 8 it — 1 results 9 - 9 declared - 8ETTING: 5-2 Wannabe Grand, 11-4 Accelerating, 3-1 Spirit Willing, 7-1
Serrain, 8-1 Obert Ball, 20-1 Optional, Sidehil, 25-1 others
9.05 CECIL BOYD ROCHFORT MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) 26,000 3YO 1m 2f
9.05 STAKES (CLASS D) 26,000 3YO 1m 2f
CHAPTED EXISTENCE IN STUDE IT
S O LUSSANA LADY (14) B Harbury B 11 Stack 1
SEARCH PARTY LOUTIN 8 TI WR Safebury TI
5 22 SHALMAR (7) M SHALES II R Firmer 8 11 R Firmer 3
8 56 SUPPER (225) L Current 8 11 G Spartes (7) 5
9 SOUFFLE H Cod 8 11 W Ryan 9 10 O STARTIBECK (19) P Makin 8 11 S Senders 8 17 ZEDNEN M Jenné 8 11 P Robinson 8
11 ZEENEH M. Jerné B 11
Character Old Stoken Black Character Old Stokens R.1 Stokens 18-1 Souths.
14-1 Charmed Existence, 18-1 Search Party, Zeeneb, 20-1 others

GFAVOURITES: 259-586 (44%)	8 49/P- GLEN MIRAGE (80) (CD) M Countre 10 10 7. Mr J Young (7)
BLUNKERED FIRST TIME Sharp Embrace (550), Kinlogh Gale (vi-	0 58005- FIVE LIVE (T/) 8 Cole 4 TO 5
sored, 720, Deer Do (820).	10 03834- MISS SOUTER (296) (CD) H Home 8 10 1 Julius E J Jones (7)
	11 A350- HAYDOWN (28) C Egypton 8 10 9
6.20 EVENING NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) 53,200 added 2m 1f	12 DOSCS- LADY PENDRAGON (17) N Smith 0 10 0 . Alles C Dyson (7)
£3,200 added 2m 1f	13 POF50- PLUVIUS (7) C Hernalty 8 10 0
1 231- TIME FOR ACTION (21) (D) C Night 8 11 4 J Nisque (5)	TH AFPSO- PARTY BEDLAM (32) EL JETTES O TO O
2 21F AFON ALWEN (TT) (BF) PHOUS 5 10 3	E OPOF/ BALLYHAYS (547) N ANTHO O 10 0
3 2401- ANNOLANCING (12) GL Moore 4 TO TO M A Fitzgerald B	5 OFFO- ORCHARD LADY (72) N Wastel 8 100
A AGENT (F320) S Cols 5 TO TZ	17 /4006- POCONO (08/GHT (12) C Juves 8 10 0 Miles 8 Smell (7)
5 BE SATISFIED (F466) C Popherr 5 10 12	B 050P- FESH SEA (158) B Lievelyn 5 10 0 Doubled
8 OF SEVENTEENS LUCKY (580) M Ppo 8 to 12 J Cullety	- 18 declared -
7 OOFS- WINDOWS TOWN (24) P Farrel 5 10 TZ	Minimum weight: 10st. True handicap weights: Heydown 9st 12th, Lady Pon-
8 20205 FLUTTHEN LADY (28) A Berrow 5 10 7 Comming (5)	diagon But 10th, Picklus 9st 10th, Party Bedlem 9st 9th, Bellyhaye 9et 5th,
9 FROSTY JO R Frost 4 102 J Frost	Orchard Lady Set 7th, Pocono Kright Set 6th, Mich See Set 4th.
-9 declared -	BETTING: 5-1 Bon Voyage, 8-1 Mess Ondee, 7-1 Pair Of Jacks, 8-1 kn-
BETTING: 15-8 Alon Alwed, 5-1 Time For Action, 7-2 Asmounting, 8-2	patrome Lady, Colway Prince, 10-1 Sovereign, Miss Souter, 12-1 others
Seventuaria Locky, 20-1 Pletterby Lady, Frosty Jo., 25-1 others	
	CHILDCRAFT HANDICAD THAT
IC EO ROBERT WILD MAN'	8.20 CHILDCRAFT HANDICAP CHASE (F) £5,000 2m 110 yds
ALLYINGON WAIDEN	1 POA/S- RAMSTAR (53) (D) P Hobbs 10 11 10
HURDLE (E) £3,200 added 2m 6f	2 ST294 DEAR DO (15) (D) N Hersterson 11 11 D M A Fitzperald B
1 SPCS- CASTLE APPLOW (172) C North 511 8	3 FP2K3- CASPIAN BELLIGA (24) (CD) 5 Knight 10 11 8
2 00003- 07070 (16) R Baiser 8 Tt 6 G Shankin (3) 8	4 02P/5- TOOMUCH TOOSOON (15) (CD) M Pipe 10 11 1 C Maude
3 P/ FURRY DAY (740) P Ferrel 2 11 6	5 4P520- MR BEAK (7) (D) 8 Librellyn 8 10 12
4 DSE2- GARRISON FRENDLY (52) N Handerson 5 ft 6.M A Plagmant	8 56220- SHREWD JOHN (53) (D) Was 11 Thomas 12 10 11 11 Gallaghter
COLOR	7 OSAP- SYNEYOURNESSED (20) (D) PEccles 8 10 8 A Maguire
R PERFL SAMOS POINT (24) C Perham 8 ft 8A Bales (2) B	8 F2221- INDIAN TEMPLE (15) K Blanco 7 10 7
7 ADPOS SHARP EMBRACE (12) M Pipe 5 11 6 TJ Murphy 8 600 SUGA HAWK (F6) J O'Shee 8 11 8 J A McCarthy	0 6/404 KETCHICAN (12) S Kright 8 TO 0
B DOY SUGA HAWK (FB) J CHISSE B TI B	10 221/4- FAR EAST (NZ) (63) (D) 8 De Hines 9 10 0
8 PP.PS- BOHNY BAROSY (TT) Mas A H-Chappel 7 ft 1	11 54P06- GABISH (12) (D) 8 Somen 13 10 0S Fox
10 2048/ MY OLD CHEVA (794) N Hawks 0 11 1 R Greans	12 SP2FP- HALHAM TARN (12) (D) H Warners 8 10 0 A Dowling (7)
11 OPOP PRIDE OF PENNIER (88) A Newcombe 5 ti 1 L. Cammins (5)	18 20850- MORTHERN OPTIMEST (54) (D) 8 Lienellyn 10 10 0 .S Kelly (5)
2 POD44 REMEMBER STAR (31) A D Smith 6 11 1	14 444FD- HUGH DAMESLS (26) C Hernsley TO TO 0 Miles A Dudley (7)
13 PSP44 UP THE TEMPO (65) F Farrel 9 Tt 1 D Switzr (5) 14 C33- KLOHDIKE CHARGER (12) J Old 4 Tt 0 C Mande	- 14 declared -
14 033- KLOHOKE CHARGER [12] J OM 4 11 0 C Mande	BET (BiG: 4-1 Indian Temple, 5-1 Dear Do, 7-1 Rameter, Shrewd John,
5 CEST POLEYS QUEST (P14) JS Moore 4 108 P Hersey (S)	8-1 Caspian Belage, Toomsch Tooston, 10-1 Fer East, 12-1 others
- 15 declared -	
BETTRIC: 2-1 Gentson Friendy, 11-2 Nondite Charge, 13-2 Sharp En-	8.50 IVOR LANG 70TH BIRTHDAY SKY
brace, 7-1 Castle Arrors, My Old Chins, 3-1 Suga Heess, 12-1 others	0.50 H'CAP HOLE (D) \$4,000 2m 6f
The second second second	1 10038- RUMAWAY PETE (29 (CO EP) M Pipe 8 20
7.20 SUMMER RACING NOVICE SKY	2 201- AUTO PROT (\$1) N Handerson 10 11 4
1.2U CHASE (D) 95,000 2m 5t 110 kgs	C KNI- WILDLING BIJ MITTERSON DITT
	3 1/PUI- MARINE SOCIETY (17) (CU) A Hattle 10 109 .Mr R Widger (7)
1 COOKS BATTLE AIR (NZ) (TT) G Edwards TO 11 C D Salter (S)	4 30312- MYSTIC HILL (17) (C) R Frost 7 108 Frost
2 SAU44 JAMES CROSS (TT) G Beiding 8 TI 9 Front	5 005G- ROSS DAHCER (16) JS Moore 8 10 5 J Mages (10 V
3 26545- KBNLOGH GALE (12) N/s M Bians 10 11 9 .1. Curaraine (5) V	5 42033 ISIS DAWN (17) (D) P Hobbs 8 104 A Meguire
4 PSP65- MANDALRY (12) J Old 9 11 0 M A Fitzgerald	7 PIF11- WOODSTOCK WANDERER (14 (D) PBowen8 100.W Marston
S SULES. MICHAEL AND HIGHELYER DIS A NAME 7 TO S., MIT L. METODI.	=7 declared =
R PHYS. PALACE PARADE RUSA) (32) A HOOM B 11 0 T J Newphy	BETTING: 5-2 Woodstock Wandersk, 4-1 Auto Pilot, 5-1 Rangery Pete,
7 33550- THE FLYING DOCTOR (59) P Bower 8 TI O	late Down, 13-2 Marino Society, 8-1 Mystic Hill, 10-1 Rose Dencer

1505- POCONO IORGETI (12) C Jures 8 10 0	pedigree and the combination of great tactical speed and the
num weight: 10st. True handicap weights: Heydown Set 12lb, Lady Pen- on Set 10lb. Plusius Set 10lb. Parky Bodiem Set Sib., Bellikhaye Set Sib.	
erd Lady Set 71b, Pocono Krighti Set 61b, Mich See Set 41b. 1160: 5-1 Bon Yoyage, 6-1 Miles Oedee, 7-1 Pair Of Jacks, 6-1 Inj-	Afternoon results
cue Lady, Colwey Prince, 10-1 Sovereign, Miles Souter, 12-1 others	EPSOM 2.10: 1. LADY ANGHARAD (M.J. Kinene)
20 CHILDCRAFT HANDICAP SKY	11-1; Z. Atientic Destiny 3-1; 3. Strike A Blow 11-2.7 ren. 11-4 fev Red Delinian. 21/4, 2. (A Jarvis, Didcot). Tota: £1720; £460, £190.
(14/5 - RAMSTAR (33) (D) P Hobbs 10 11 10	DF: £2880. CSF: £3387, NR: Kalidase. 2.48: 1. SILVER PATRIANCH (Fix Eddery)
27/5- TOOMUCH TOOSOON (15) (CD) M Pipe 10 71 1 C Manda P20- MR BEAK (7) (D) 8 Llevelyn 8 10 12	7-2; 2. Swain Evens tay; 3. Ebediyte 10-1. 7 ran. 11/4, rik. (J. Duntop, Arundel), Totes: £340; £170, £140, DF; £190, CSF; £585.
922- SHPEND JOHN (SS) (D) Vin 11Thomas 12 10 11 11 Gallagher 5/1P SYMEYOURIMISSED (24) (D) P Exclas 8 10 8 A Maguire	3.20: 1. APACHE RED (K Falon) 7-2 fev; 2. Bodieri Pride 12-1; 3. Shaled Or 12-1;
2221- INDIAN TEMPLE (15) K Barrop 7 10 7	4. GEST Of Gold 10-1, 17 ran. Hd, 'A. (D) Eleworth, Whitcombe), Tote: £3.80; £1.30, £4.70, £3.20, £2.40, DF; £53.20, CSF; £38.32.
IPOS- GABISH (12) (D) 8 Schen 19 10 0S Fox 299- HALHAM TARM (12) (D) H Manners 8 10 0A Dowling (7)	Tricast: £442.78. Tric: £322.20. 4.00: 1. SHAHTOUSH (M J Kinane)
1850 - NORTH-ERK OPTIMEST (SQ. (D) 8 Livrelly in 10 10 0 . S Kally (S) 14PD - HJIGH DAMBELS (26) C Hernstey in 10 0 Miles A Dudley (?) - 14 declared -	12-1; 2. Behr 5-2; 3. Midnight Line 9-4 fee. 8 ran. ¼, 6. (A. O'Brien, Co Carlow). Tota: £920; £170, £160, £140, DF: £1680, CSF;
THG: 4-1 Indian Tempie, 5-1 Dear Do, 7-1 Remeter, Shrewd John, Caspien Beluga, Toomuch Toostoo, 10-1 Far East, 12-1 others	£3905. Also ren: 4th Cloud Castle (8-1), 5th Nepoleon's Sister (10-1), 8th Tarascon (12-1), 7th High And Low (4-1) and 8th Trophy Wife
.50 IVOR LANG 70TH BIRTHDAY H'CAP H'DLE (D) £4,000 2m 6f	(100-1). 4.40; 1. PHILISTAR (K Palon) 7-1; 2. Secret Spring 12-1; 3. Gee See Dress: 5-2.
ICSS- RUKAWAY PETE (29) (C.O. EP) M. Pipe B 12 0	14 ran. 11-4 fav Star Talent. 1/s, six hd. (K Burks, Wantage). Tole: £6.70; £2.30, £4.00,
(FOIL MARRIE SOCIETY (17) (CD) A Hobbs 10 109Mr R Widger (7) 1092- MYSTIC HILL (17) (C) R Frost 7 10 8	\$2.30. DF: \$27.10. CSF: \$77.42. Tricast: \$815.40. Tric: \$93.80. Non Runner: Sweet Wil- helmine.
1711- HOODSTOCK WANDENER (14) (D) P Bowen B 100. W Marsten - 7 declared - 7 declare	5.10: 1. LILLI CLAIRE (T Sprake) 25-1; 2. Jinesyah 10-1; 3. Annu 8-1, 8 ran. 11-4 tay Woodand Melody, 11/4, 11/4. (D Elsworth,
1942: 5-2 Woodstock Wandscot, 4-1 Auto Pilot, 5-1 Romowy Pale, Janes, 19-2 Marino Society, 8-1 Mystic Hill, 10-1 Ross Dencer	Whitemps) Tota: \$28.80; \$3.50, \$2.40, \$1.80, DF: \$261.70 CSF: \$226.62.
	/ KASIT IN DEPK HOLDSE (W. MURD) 74-

•	E	8.50 IVOR LANG 70TH BIRTHDAY SKY				
	1	10038	RUNAWAY PETE (29 (CO BF) M Pipe 8 120 C Manda			
i	•	2 2011. AUTO PRUT (\$1) N Handerson 10 11 4				
İ	3	150	MAPPRE SOCIETY (17) (CU) A Hattle 10 109 . Mr R Widger (7)			
	4 3002- MYSTIC HILL (17) (C) R Frost 7 108 Frost					
5 0083- ROSS DAHCER (16) JS Moore 8 TO 5						
	5 42033 ISIS DAWN (T7) (D) P Hobbe 8 TO 4A	CHO DANN (1/) (D) F THANK O D4				
	7	PIFTI-	WOODSTOCK WANDERER (14) (D) PBowen 8 100.W Mirration			
		-7 declared -				
	BE	TING	5-2 Woodstock Wanderst, 4-1 Auto Pilot, 5-1 Ranguay Pete,			
	bi	* Dawn	19-2 Martine Society, 8-1 Mystic Hill, 10-1 Rose Dender			
	3		LADY PEPPLATT (1) (SF) JS Moore 9 8			
	4	03	LIGHTNING BLAZE (12) PS McGrice 89 A McCarthy (2) 8			
	8		PISK ONE FARTHING (16) J Barry 88G Carlet 3			
			DOWNERS AND MICHOLOGY I Bender 4 B			

### Wolverhampton

HYPERION 7.00 Dryad 7.30 Bold Aristocrat 8.00 Little Movie Star 8.30 Bongo 9.00 Lady Carbron 9.30 Gorgeous Gussy

STALLS: 71 & 1m 6f - outside; rest - inside. ●Fibroscand, teft-hand, ovel course.

●Course is N of town on A448, Seation fm. ADMISSION: Club £15;
Estersals.55 (OAP members of Diemond Club £9; Viewing Restautant £2590 including entrance and meal. CAR PARK: fine.

●LEADING TRAINERS: R Hollimehead 70-548 (188%), J Berry

●LEADING JOCICEYS: Q Carter 34-234 (145%), Deen McKaomm

●LEADING JOCICEYS: Q Carter 30-234 (145%), Deen McKaomm

●LE DRAW ADVANTAGE: High best. OFFicested, left-hand, ovel course.

7.00 SURCINGLE MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) 25,000 added 3YO 71

_			
	3 D-0 MACH ONE (FR) (7) Sr M Prescott 9 8	5 2 CUSTON HOUSE [25] P Haisen 64	3 4 8 8 7 8
9	BETTHES: 5-4 Red Rebbit, 5-2 First Consul, 8-1 Dyed, 8-1 Lady Of Lo- dec, 10-1 Principles, 12-1 Mech Coo, 20-1 Albertisein	8.30 PETER REAR 60TH BIRTHDAY H'CAP (CLASS D) 25,000 1m 11 79yds	BE
- Y - Y	7.30 SADDLE CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) 23,000 added 7f 2600 FIALIAN SYMPHONY (9) (CD) P Earns 48 h. A. McCarthy (2) 4 V 2600 ELITE HOPE (30) (CD) N Trides 8 8	1 21-72 FINED (75) Nits A Swinterk 5 10 8	1234587891
	HARTSHORNE MOTORS NOVICE AUC-	4-1 CHENTING LINESPASSED SHEET IN 1 SOUTH AND INCOME AS A COURSE	Ħ

8 0-850 LAW DANCER (19) (CD) (EF) T MSS 5 8 8 A Mackey 3 9 52-00 BAPSCORD (5) (C) M Waring 4 8 7 F Lyach 10 10 254000 CHESPEUL GROOM (1) (C) G Staw 7 8 1 - 2 Winston (5) 8 11 - 414520 AMSER REGERT (6) (C) (EF) P Hestern 38 1 - 1 Chernock 11 - 11 declared - BETTING: 7-2 Night Vigil, 5-1 Reed, 7-1 Talluish Belle, Cheerful Groom, 8-1 Dattsing, Headyards Shellt, 10-1 Boogs, Amber Regert, 12-1 others 9.00 MARTINGALE SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) \$2,500 added 2YO fillies 5f

WEST 11 THERE R Holinstead & 4	4 03 LIGHTHING BLAZE (12) PS McEntes 89 A McCarthy (4) 8
- 8 deciared -	8 50 PASK CHE FARTHANG (16) J Barry 88 G Carter 3
ETTRIG: 9-4 Boothy Goes, 5-1 Red Charges, 7-2 Little Movie Star, 8-1	8 05 SOUND'S ACE (15) D Shew 88 Feering 1 B
ustorn Homes, 8-1 frigh Cream, 12-1 West U There	7 50 SPECKLED GEM (8) P Evans 89
	TERESHOVA'S JOY K Wingrove 89
8.30 PETER REAR 60TH BIRTHDAY H'CAP (CLASS D) 25,000 1m 1179yds	BETTHIC 9-4 Lightning Blaze, 3-1 Lady Peppiati, 5-1 Lady Carbron, 6-1
(CLASS D) £5,000 1m 1f 79yds	Sound's Aco, 7-1 Just Sunder, 18-1 Risk One Fathing, 14-1 others
21-12 RAED (75) Nrs A Swinbank 5 108. G Duffield 1	
2008 THILLIAN BELLE (7 CO) NUMBER 59 2.7 G Mar months	9.30 GIRTH HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,000 added 3YO 1m 6f 166yds
ARLYN MIRROR TOTAR PARK 3 D 8	9.30 added TVO to St 188ude
10330 DAIGNO (7) (SF) Mis N Magniley 3 97 P McCabe (3) 6 Y	
Single Bridge of Arm & Pierc 496	1 505 SORGEOUS GUSSY (USA) (7) M Sel 87 M Fanton 8
THE MEMORIAL PROPERTY STREETING STREETING (1) Y	2 336301 OPERATIC (10) (C) P Evirts 87
TOTAL MESTILANDING STEEK (OT 12) HINDESTEED JO IJ. A NO. 400 1	3 00-5 FAYEZ (130) K McAulite 96
USEN I AM STRUCKS LIGHT CON TELL I MESS S R S WINNESS S	4 DODO- HORSKI LAD (214) Sir M Prescott 8 4
COLOR BADDETION OF THE MUNICIPAL A K / THE TABLE IN	5 0-4364 ASBNBOX (11) 8 Mechan 9 2 M. Tabbutt 4
DEMAN CURRENT CONTROL AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AND	8 6-5200 VINCENT OF JIL Harris 81 Deen McKeown 5 Y
- 49520 AMSER REGENT (5) (C) (SP) P Hastern 38 1 Chemook 11	7 050-0 SWALLOW WARRIOR (11) T Enerington 8 2 J Tide 19
_11 /0/38/20 -	8 004 PIPLE (27) Mrs G Rees 8 ft A Mackay 9
TTING: 7-2 Maye Vigil, 8-1 Reed, 7-1 Talluinh Bells, Cinemial Groom,	9 245458 REVER PRONTIER (10) M Usher 7 12
1 Danzino, Heatinyards Shelk, 10-1 Boogo, Amber Regent, 12-1 others	10 -20220 RUBY BEAR (11) W Brisbourne 7 12 A NaCoutty (5) 3
	11 035351 MUSALSE (11) P Hastern 7 12 L Charmock 7
9.00 MARTINGALE SELLING STAKES	12 00-009 CARLASANTA (14) A Novcombe 7 to Doebted 12
(CLASS G) £2,500 added ZYO filles 5f	- 12 declared -
	All thours weight: 7st 10th, True handidep weight: Cartesanta 7st 8th.
024 LADY CARBRON SEG (CD) J BOTY B C P Feebly (3) 4	BETTING: 9-4 Norski Lad, 5-1 Massaine, 7-1 Operatio, Ruby Beat, 8-1 As-
505 JUST SLANDAY (18) W.G.W. Turner 89 D McGaffer (7) 7	Isbas, 10-1 River Fronties, 12-1 Gargeous Guesy, 14-1 others

Denra, 19-2 Martino Sociaty, 8-1 Mystic HSM, 10-1 Ross Dencer	)
COI LAUY PEPPLATT (1) (BF) JS Moore 9 8	1
03 LIGHTHING BLAZE (12) P.B. McEntee 89 A McCartiny (2) 8	
50 RISK ONE FARTHING (16) J Berry 88 G Carter 3	1
05 SOUND'S ACE (15) D Stew 88 Floring 1 B	Ł
50 SPECKLED GEM (8) P Exans 89 F Egan 8 TEMES: NOVA'S JOY K Wington 89	
RNG: 8-4 Lightning Blaze, 8-1 Lady Peppiati, 5-1 Lady Carbron, 6-1 fis Aco, 7-1 Just Sunday, 18-1 Risk One Farthing, 14-1 others	
GIRTH HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,000 added 3YO 1m 6f 166yds	l
505 GORGEOUS GUSSY (USA) (7) M 9el 87 M Fanton 8	
SOI OPERATIC (16) (C) P Evers 87	1
00-5 FAYEZ (1309 K McAulite 9 6	ı
OCO- HORSKI LAD (214) Sir M Prescott 8 4	ı
GB4 ASB(BOX (11) 8 Mechan 9 2 M Talabati 4	1
5200 VENCENT CO J L Harris 81	J
60-0 SWALLOW WARRIOR (11) T Effectington 8 12 J Tatle 19	1
DO4 PIPLE (27) Mrs G Rees 8 ft A Mackey 9	l
1400 DOUGD COCKITIED AND MILWOOD 7 77	ъ.

EUSBIG2 Tric: EISBIG: E17854 to Epoem 345 today, NTs: Ballichorough Boy, Rock Island Lina, Young Mazzad.

4.25: 1. LADY PEPPIATT (P P Murphy)
7-2; 2. Super Strictes 4-1; 3. The Donk 6-1. 7 rbs. 7-4 few Heibbi. 3. ¼. (J More), Toles: £380; £2.50, £3.40, DF; £12.70, CSF; £15.75. 5.00; 1. SOAKED (A Cultane) 7-4 few: 2. Aljes: 8-1; 3. Rauda Asselsarsing To-1; 18 ran. 3. 1½. (D Chapman), Toles: £180; £100, £470, £200, £460, DF; £1280, CSF; £30.37. Tricast: £21398. Tric: £1560, NR; Mulcarrab. Placepot: £30140, Guardpot: £95.30. Place 6; £182.82. Place 5; £102.78. Tino: \$1,210.50.
Jackpot: not won, pool of £13,400.56 car-ried forward to Epsom Downs today, Placepot: £523.00. Quadpot: £168.00. Place 6: £254.47. Place 5: £87.70. Place 6: £25-47. Place 5: £27.0.

CAT TERICK

2.36: 1. RYA LAKE (J Carol) 5-2; 2. Cartmel Park 8-11 fay; 2. Snap Cracker 15-2.

5 ran. 11/4, 6. (M Channon, Upper Lambourn), 19te: £157; £120, £130, £130, £150, £ 10 ran. 1½, 10 (S Kettlewell, McKeleham). Tota: \$220; \$120, \$140, \$160 DF: \$130 CSF: \$2362 Thr: \$4.10

3.40: 1. PIGEON (T Williams) 2-1 fav; 2. Bee Health Boy 11-2; 3. Stylish Ways 13-2.11 nar. nt; 1. (D Barker, Fichmond). Tota: \$250; \$110, \$120,



## A boy among sharks, but Owen keeps his head above water



ROWBOTTOM

ON THE PERILS OF PR FACING **EMERGING** CELEBRITIES

pressure of reality. The process occurred midway through yesterday's Umbro launch for the contract they have just signed with Michael Owen.

The young England for-ward, who had fended off the inevitable question about Teddy Sheringham's night-clubbing activities by saying be hadn't heard what had gone on, was suddenly given the evidence.

With a grin that was two parts twinkle to one part shark, a wilier member of the Fourth Estate slapped down a copy of the Sun on to the table where a ghost of a smile. the 18-year-old footballer was

The front page picture, it

hand, the leggy blonde. It was the sort of picture you might see in a rival fanzine with Sheringham's face crudely pasted on top. But in this case, unfortu-

of the 32-year-old England forward to whom Owen - in playing terms that is - is the most obvious understudy. Owen took in the details impassively before nudging the paper back towards its thought-

ful provider with a hard stare. "Where's that?" he asked, with In terms of the paper-

scissors-stone guessing game, where you have to choose had to be said, was a tabloid simultaneously with your

THERE is a point when any wet dream. There it all was - opponent and bope to over- compact figure in the red top PR exercise distorts under the the boozy setting, the fag in the come them, this was stone folding his newspaper - hang meets stone.

> spokesman was acting like a dog with two tails. What more could a sponsor ask than this tanned, self-contained, super talented teenager standing on nately, the face really was that the cusp of his own greatness, a more certain bet for the future than the Millennium Dome dominating the sky line sake - and he's still little more outside the press conference venue?

> > What Owen had to face yesterday is the new reality for emerging superstars - an endless succession of courses in which the feast is themselves. From the moment his helicopter landed, all eyes and cameramen, while sitting up on lenses were trained on the a dais with the sponsor.

on a sec, newspaper? - in No wonder the company preparation for a short, conducted walk to the site of his interrogation.

As he made his way over; essing the time of day with the blazered folk who surrounded him, he clasped his hands behind his back. Like Prince bloody Phillip, for goodness He was then ushered into a

series of scenarios which will become all too familiar to him, if they are not already. First came the appearance in front of all assembled media - 50 reporters, 20 photographers, five TV

Then he was escorted away for a smaller gathering with the daily written press, before being sidelined for a chat with the Sunday press, before heing guided upstairs to have his picture taken on the roof - with a clear view over to the Dome.

Requests for antographs from the staff clearing the tables, and even from some reporters - filled in any spare moments. Finally, after a last round of farewells, he lifted off again in the helicopter to rejoin the England party-grateful, no doubt, that the landing was to be out of sight of any joshing

In the course of the interviews (written media, dailies only) one idiot asked him if he had watched the likes of Steve

Heighway playing for Liver-pool when he had visited Anfield as a boy. All right. It was me. A moment's thought confirmed that when Heighway was in his pomp in the early 70s England's newest forward was not even in his pram. He is so fearfully young, so awesomely

The introductory address of Owen's companion on the dais had a particular resonance given the disruptive recent events surrounding certain members of the England party. "What a pleasure it is," he said, "to be involved with someone who has come to fruition and shown a maturity beyond his years...what a pleasure to reward dedication, commitment

The images of recent weeks Sheringham's witless canoodling, Paul Gascoigne's tragi-comic multi-cigaretted appearances - form an unspoken counterpoint to everything Owen does. Like Edina's daughter, Saffy, m Absolutely Fabulous, it seems he must take on the responsibilities so flagrantly shunned by the older

It is, in truth, a fearful load hut for all that Owen protests he would not change his position with any other 18-year-old in the world. For today's international sporting arrivals, heady rewards are tempered with heavy burdens. Let's hope. for Owen's sake, that he can keep those fleet feet firmly located on terra firma.

# Fight is off as Akinwande fails hepatitis test

THE world heavyweight title fight between Evander Holyfield and Henry Akinwande, due to be staged bere tonight, have tested positive for bepati-

moter of the fight, said the finding had come in two separate medical tests conducted by the New York State Athletic Com-

The commission does not allow infected boxers to fight

pass quickly. Hepatitis B, often coincidence. contracted through sex or dirty successfully treated, but not al-

The Showtime network,

Attempts were made to rescue the card as new tests were calling off of the Holyfield-Akconducted following suggestions that an error may bave been made because another the rest of the undercard, inheavyweight fighter on the card had also failed a medical.

fight on the undercard against card would be called off. was called off yesterday after Jerry Ballard, was also sus-Akinwande was reported to pended for medical reasons, according to Ralph Petrillo. medical co-ordinator for the Greg Fritz, a spokesman for athletic commission. Petrillo Don King Productions, the pro- said Akinwande was under a medical suspension, but he declined to elaborate.

Holyfield's lawyer, Jim Thomas, said: "A test has come mission. "The fight is off," Fritz hack and Henry Akinwande has tested positive, at least on this particular test for hepatitis."

The tests on Akinwande and because of the risk of trans- Mercer were carried out at the mitting the disease through same laboratory. Speaking beblood during bouts. Hepatitis fore the final decision to call off B and C cause serious liver the fight, Thomas said: "They were carried out at the same lab Hepatitis A is typically a and we suspect there may be food-borne disease that can something wrong. It is a strange

Holyfield said: "It's disaphypodermic needles, can be pointing to train for 13 weeks, prepare for a fight, then the day before a fight this happens. Two weeks, three weeks is difwhich was to televise the bout ferent, but the day before is refrom Madison Square Gar- ally hard to take. It's kind of den, also said in a statement strange to wait till the last that the fight had been can-minute to test for things like celled due to the commission's that. I'm the most tested fightfinding that British-born Ak- er in the world. They get me earinwande had tested positive for ly. It's part of life. These things

It had been hoped that the inwande fight might not necessarily lead to the scrapping of cluding Roberto Duran's world title fight. However, it was con-Ray Mercer, who was due to firmed later that the entire

> These were the second and third medical suspensions to hit tonight's card. On Friday the Mexican lightweight Maria de las Nieves Garcia was scratched from her undercard bout with Christy Martin because tests showed she was

Akinwande has had a dramatic last 12 months. He was disqualified during a bout last year against the World Boxing Council champion, Lennox Lewis, for repeated holding. After the Lewis déhâcle, King matched him against Orlin Norris and Akinwande won a 12round decision to become the mandatory contender.

Holyfield was to have fought Lewis to unify the heavyweight championship for the first time since Riddick Bowe threw the WBC belt into a rubbish bin after beating Holyfield.

But with Holyfield wanting \$20m (£12m) for the fight and Lewis unwilling to give up his relationship with the HBO network, talks collapsed and Holyfield was left only with the option of taking a mandatory title defence to keep his World Boxing Association title.



## Horseplay days are over for Duran

in 1971, a 20-year-old Roberto Duran sat on the steps of Madison Square Garden at 7am and a rare smile played across the cruellest lips in boxing. Duran helieved that all fights in the USA were staged at the legendary Manhattan arena and that, while nobody knew him then, "they soon would". That evening he made

Huertas, whom Duran knocked cold in the first round of his Garden dehut. Tonight, an incredible 26 years to the month after Duran brutalised Edinhurgh's Ken Buchanan at the "mecca of boxing" to become lightweight champion of the world, the Garden was due to be a fitting setting for what surely must be

the 23rd and final world title

fight of Duran's 31-year boxing

an impression on one Benny

Two weeks before his 48th birthday, the legendary "manos de Piedra" (Hands of Stone) was to bave challenged William Joppy for the World Boxing Association middleweight title on the undercard to the Evander Holyfield v Henry Akinwande heavyweight title fight. Duran

ON his first trip to New York. Roberto Duran has fought 22 world title fights and at the age of 47 he is still going strong. Glyn Leach reports from New York

> had not even met when Duran, then a 15-year-old bantamweight, turned professional in March 1967.

Duran has won an incredible 102 fights, with 13 losses, mostly in the latter part of his career. He earned his fame as a snarling, dead-eyed destroyer whose rage and aggression nullified the cultured skills of Buchanan and Sugar Ray Leonard, who went the distance with the outstanding middleweight champion, Marvin Hagler, in November 1983, and who, six years later at the age of 37, shocked the boxing world by beating the Bronx street bood, Iran "The Blade" Barkley, to become a four-

weight world champion. That Duran is no more. But the promoter Don King had been hoping that the Panamanian's popularity, particularly within New York's large Hispanic communities, would attract attention on a day when horseracing-"Real Quiet" is a

was given little chance of beat- bot favourite to become the first tainment was hard to find for ing Joppy, 27, whose parents Triple Crown winner in 20 years in today's Belmont Stakes - has top priority in New York's

sporting calendar. Duran has never liked horses. On Monday at the Garden's Expo Center, where prefight training sessions are taking place, sitting beside the very same ring is which he won two of his four world titles, the aged warrior revealed: "Yes, it's true I once knocked out a horse. It was at a fiesta in my mother's home town of Guarare. Someone bet me a bottle of whiskey that I couldn't do it.

"I didn't know where to hit the horse - it didn't seem to have a jaw. But my uncle, Socrates, told me to catch it just behind the ear and down it went. But I ripped my hand open. You could see right down to the bone. But I was too drunk to feel it and I won the bet."

Something gained, then -Duran admits that as a youngster in Panama he used to throw cats against walls, just for fun. In those early days enterthe young street fighter, one of eight children deserted by their father.

His family were shackled by a poverty that, legend has it, had Duran swimming two miles across the Panama Canal in order to raid the mango trees of plush Fort Amador on the other side.

Boxing enabled Duran to amass a fortune estimated at \$50m, but most of it has been squandered as the Panamanian playboy, who has eight children of his own by a variety of mothers, pursued a path of self-destruction.

Duran has little to show for his career; a farm, a penthouse in Panama City which the US government used as a base to spy on Noriega. But despite his paying no tax in his bomeland. where he is treated like royalty. Duran has a second mortgage on his family home. And a Florida court had ordered that his \$250,000 purse for the fight against Joppy should be withbeld because Duran owes

Elvira Galvin, the mother of Duran's 10-year-old son. His purse has also been earmarked by the Internal Revenue Service to clear unpaid taxes. His recently estranged pro-

moter for 11 years, Pennsylvanian Mike Acri, said: "If you offered him a cheque for \$100,000 or showed him \$50,000 dollars in cash, he'de take the \$50,000 every time. "Duran doesn't understand

interest of investment - he doesn't want to understand. And the end result is a rags to riches and back to rags story."

Some fighters fight to live. others live to fight. For Duran, the divide appears to bave become hlurred. There are severe misgivings regarding his ability to live without the sport, but while the pay-days are still there, Duran will be there too.

Former opponent Buchanan has been forced to take a series of dead-end jobs since retiring in 1983, but when asked about Duran's challenge to Joppy, the Scot offered a perspective that only an outsider who was formerly on the inside can fully appreciate.

ide can tuny appreciate.
"Duran's a tucky bastard," Buchanan said



Henry Akinwande trains in New York before his fight with Evander Holyfield was called off yesterday after the British boxer failed a test for hepatitis B

### Pregnant pause in fighter's career

SOME BOXERS cannot fight "She had no idea she was pregbecause they fail drug tests. nant," said Bobby Goodman, Maria de las Nieves Garcia Madison Square Garden's diсэлпоt fight because of a preg-

After several tests confirmed that the Mexican fighter was pregnant, she was pulled on Thursday from her fight against Christy Martin on the undercard to a question, "no, she didn't of what would have been today's appear to be gushing that she Evander Holyfield-Henry Ak-

inwande heavyweight ritle fight. Nieves Garcia is 21 weeks pregnant and claims she was completely unaware of the fact. women's lightweight champi-Goodman said Nieves Gar-

rector of boxing, a fact that cia underwent urinalysis and a blood test on Wednesday which seems especially strange as she already has one child. revealed she was preganant. "She seemed to be dejected She took another blood test that she was not fighting," said Thursday which also proved Goodman, adding in response positive for pregnancy, he said.

Martin has a deal with promoter Don King to earn \$100,000 for an unreleased was pregnant. Nieves Garcia, 22, was number of fights, as long as she scheduted to earn \$15,000 keeps on winning. Her oppo-(£9,500) to fight Martin, the nent's pregnancy was just one World Boxing Council's reason she will not today.

TWENTY YEARS OF TITLE FIGHTS

June 1972: Ken Buchanan, New York TKO 13, World Boding Council lightweight title.

January 1973: January Robertson, Panama KO5, World Boxing Association lightwight title. June 1973: Hector Thompson, Panama TKD8, WBA lightweight September 1973: Ishimatsu Suzuki, Panama TKO 10, WBA light-March 1974: Esteban De Jesus, Panama KO11 WBA lightweight

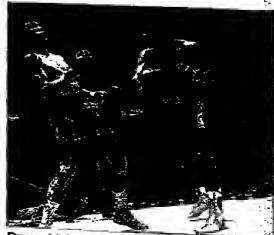
December 1974: Masataka Takayama, Costa Rica, TKOT, WEA lightweight title. March 1975: Pay Lampkin, Panama KO14, WEA Lightweight December 1975: Leondo Ortiz, Puerto Fico, KO15, WBA lightweight title.

May 1975: Lou Bizzerro, Philadelphia, KO14, WBA Ughtweight
the

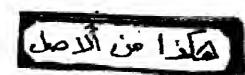
October 1976: Alvaro Rojas, Portda, KO1, WBA Lightweight ti-January 1977: Viorner Fernandez, Florida, KO1S, WSA Light-weight title. ptember 1977: Edwin Viruet, Philadelphia, WtS, WBA LightJanuary 1972: Esteban De Jesus, Las Vegas, KO12, WBA/WBC Lightweight titles. June 1980: Ray Leonard, Montreal, W15, WBC Welterweight November 1980: Ray Leonard, New Orleans, TKO 8, WBC Welterweight title.

June 1983: Davey Moore, New York, TKOS, WBA Light Middle-November 1983: Marvin Hagier, Las Vegas, L15, WEAWBC Victieweight titles. Actileweight titles. tune 1984: Thomas Hearns, Las Vegas, KO by 2, WBC Light fiddleweight title.

ebruary 1989: Iran Barkley, Attantic City, W12, WBC Middle-December 1989: Ray Leonard, Las Vegas, L12, WBC Super Violatievelori titia January 1995: Vinny Pazienza, Atlantic City, Lt2, IBC Super Middlewelcht title. June 1996: Hector Camacho, Atlantic City, L12, IBC Supe Middleweight title.



Duran (right) lands a shot on Ken Buchanan at Madison Square Garden in 1972 Photograph: AP



# Buy-out signals end of partnership Goulding out

Motor racing

By David Tremayne in Montreal

SURPRISE has greeted the imminent split between Ford and engine supplier Cosworth, as a relationship that dates back 35 years is about to be severed by VW's acquisition of the engineering company. If Darby and Joan had separated it could scarcely have raised more evebrows. Though there have been rumours for many months now of a parting between the two partners, when the news broke yesterday that VW had beaten BMW in the fight to huy Rollsbyce, it was the talk of the paddock. VW's lucrative offer to acquire Cosworth as well is believed to have been influential in swaying shareholders in Vickers, the parent company of Rolls and Cosworth, to accept the VW hid.

When Ford took the ambitions decision to enter Fl back in 1967, it allocated Cosworth founders Keith Duckworth and Mike Costm a hudget of £100.000 to design and develop a three-litre V8 engine. The Ford Cosworth DFV set new mandards and won on its debut me him Clark's Lotus 49, at the 1967. Dutch Grand Prix at Zandvoort. Overnight Ford's image was revolutionised.

Over the ensuing years the DPV became a legend, winning another 154 victories to establist itself as the most successful Grand Prix racing engine in history. Subsequent Ford-financed Cosworth F1 engines have not lived up to the DFV's legacy, but the Ford Zetec R V8 powered Michael Schumacher to his first World Championship in 1994. The development comes at a

when there is concern over engine supply in F1. Only recently, powerbroker Bernie Ecclestone tried very hard to persuade Mercedes-Benz, whose engines power the dominant McLarens, to supply a second team. Despite his blan-

Members of Williams's pit crew begin testing the new rear end of their cars in the lead-up to tomorrow's Canadian Grand Prix

rcuit Gilles Villeneuve

Bell still laments the old Le Mans magic

CANADIAN GRAND PRIX

Photograph: AP

chrome, the company currently supplying Renault-based V10 engines to Williams and Benetton, has ensured that they will supply a third team in 1999. Honda, past winners of the World Championship with both Williams and McLaren, are due to return, perhaps by 1999. And BMW is due to race with Williams from 2000, Toyota and Nissan have also expressed interest in competing in F1. Ecclesione will welcome VW's acquisition of Cosworth, since this may help to fast-track the ambitious German marque into

of a shareholding in Meca-

VW's acquisition of Cosworth's road and racing activi-

programme as seamlessly as suggest they believed they had possible. Ford own the intel- a deal with Vickers to buy Costies leaves Ford - and Jackie lectual property rights to the worth. Now they must establish Stewart's team - with the prob- Zetec R V10 engine which a facility to design, build and lem of continuing their F1 powers the Stewarts, and some develop new engines.

course of action for us," a Ford spokesman in Canada said. Insiders are already hinting that the break could be just the impetus that Ford needs to convince itself to invest sufficient levels of funding and commitment to match Mercedes-Benz's massive support for F1.

1997 detalls 1 M Schumacher (Ferrari) 2 J Alesi (Benetton) 3 G Fisichella (Jordan) Pole position: Schumacher 1min 18.095sec

Fastest lap: D Couthard (McLaren) tmin 19,635sec, tap

Circuit length; 4.421km

(305.049km (189.553 miles)

(2.747 miles)

Distance: 69 laps

"In the coming months we ill be deciding what is the best Ford continued: "Since Ford's Advanced Vehicle technology team and Special vehicle Operations were already providing substantial scientific, technical and engineering services to Cosworth racing, we also have the option of bringing that

# in the cold at St Helens

Rugby League

By Dave Hadfield

THERE is still no place for the Great Britain scrum-half, Bobbie Goulding, in the St Helens' team to travel to Castleford on tomorrow - a fact that is bound to increase speculation about a parting of the ways.

Two other players left out of last week's starting line-up by the Saints coach, Shaun McRae, are recalled, with Damien Smith at centre and Karle Hammond at looseforward. Andy Haigh and Apollo Perelini drop to the ench. But McRae has continued to ignore the claims of Goulding, opting instead for the pairing of Sean Long and Iommy Martyn at half-back,

Two other Super League coaches threatened extensive changes after sub-standard performances last week, in the event, Salford's Andy Gregory has had some changes forced upon him, with Phil Hassan and Martin Crompton both suffering from back injuries. Mark Lee makes his first Super League start of the season at scrum-half against Wigan, while Robert Russell - the latest off the production line at the Eccles club that also nurtured Nathan McAvoy and Adtian Morley -

makes his debut on the wing. Salford have signed another young player of outstanding during investigations.

promise, the British Amaleur Rugby League Association's Youth Player of the Year, Stuart Littler, from Leigh Miners-Rangers.

Wigan's 20-year-old prop. Neil Baynes, makes his first appearance this year, preferred to Terry O'Connor, who remains in the A team.

Last weekend's other obviously dissatisfied coach was Sheffield Eagles' John Kear, He criticised his Wembley-winners' lack of hunger and indicated changes that will begin, but perhaps not finish, with a first start of the season for Willie Morganson.

Sheffield's opponents. London, have one injured player back in Chris Rvan, but are still without Martin Othah. John Timu and Mark Carroll,

Warrington will be missing Adam Doyle, who needs a groin operation, as well as Lee Briers, while Brendon Tuuta faces a fitness test before tomorrow evening's visit from Bradford. The Bulls replace Danny Peacock, out for the season with a serious knee injury, with the versatile Nathan Graham.

The British Amateur Rugby League Association's chief executive, Maurice Oldroyd, will learn next month whether any action is to be taken against him over allegations of irregularities involving Barla tours. Oldrovd has been suspended from his job

#### an interest; back in 1992 VW offactivity in-house." However, there are suggesshoot Audi examined closely 37 (ave speed 199.856kph, 124.185mph) distiments, Mercedes refused. the feasibility of commissioning dons that Ford may yet buy Cos-However, Ecclestone's purchase . an F1 engine from Cosworth.

AMERICAN viewers to the Casatian Grand Prix will have to be understanding if the English commentator lapses into romantic illusions to a race on the ther side of the Atlantic.

There again, Derek Bell, five-times winner of the Le Mans 24-hour sportscar classic. just might tell them what he's not missing: "That awful feeling when you come into the pits in the middle of the night and realise you're not even half way through it."

Pain and exhilaration are codrivers at Le Mans, and Bell is hetter acquainted with them then most. At the age of 56 he could be expected to conclude the latter no longer compensates for the former.

.And yet he still yearns for a leturn to those French fields, ex-

viable opportunity and his tele- because it changed when they drivers were getting killed in Michele Alboreto and Stefan. One man who will rue him away this year.

an arena in which it has long had

"You can be sure I'll be keeping an eye on what's happening at Le Mans, particularly as my son is in it," he said. "But it's been so much a part of my life and I hope it will still be part of my life."

Le Mans remains for many a mysterious obsession, a masochistic ritual unconnected to the real world of sport. Bell laments the passing of still more daunting times, before they hroke up the fabled Mulsanne Straight, but he is still held by its hypnotic appeal.

You do go through that "what am I doing it?" phase sometimes. It can be hard when you're running, two hours at a time, no where near anybody. That's when it becomes tiring.

"I don't think Le Mans can plaining only the absence of ever be as good as it was

vision commitments steered put those chicanes in. The Formula One and therefore Johansson again lead the Joest victory for Nissan is Martin adrematine really started pu mile straight to contend with.

"But the adrenaline will still pump for the guys now, especially going down to Indianapolis. It's still 230mph stuff approaching that corner, I always felt this was the most dangerous part of the circuit. I hate to think about it, but there could be a nasty accident there one of these days."

Twenty seven former Grand Prix drivers are among the customary veteran brigade entered this year, but here, too, Bell sees differences. "People say the characters have gone hut of course a lot of the drivers have different attitudes now," he said. "A lot are frustrated Grand Prix drivers, young guys who aren't making it in Formula One.

mere were more opportunities ing when you'd got that four in Formula One. Now you've combined experience in the microphone to make his annual got guys going out there in cockpit and in the pits, should pilgrimage to Le Mans. This sportscars trying to prove they counter any superior pace in the should be in Formula One."

> Justin Bell drives one of the Chrysler Vipers that are more vulnerable. BMW's favourites to dominate the GI2 alliance with Williams ought to class this weekend, but Bell senior suspects another of Le This test may have come too Mans' legendary names will again take overall honours. He at Daytona, are out in force but afternoon for Porsche, especially the Joest Porsche team.

"I'm not being very clever in record at Le Mans and they have it. I know Maclaren won it rained that year and they "When I was younger lots of dry." Ex-Formula One man Comas and Jan Lammers.

challenge and Bell believes tho ranks of the GT1 runners. The other sports racers look

prove formidable given time. soon. Ferarri, buoyed by success predicts victory tomorrow have little realistic hope, while the Courage Nissan's are striking fear in few of their opponents.

The GT1 Nissan crew from going for them because they've the TWR stuble are distinctly won it for the last two years, but more bullish. Caught short first you have to have a good track time out last year, they have improved the car and tested extensively in preparation for this first time out a few years ago but one. They also have a strong line-up, which includes John wouldn't have won if it had been Nielsen. Franck Lagorce, Erik

year, however, he has parted company with his long time mentor, Tom Walkinshaw and drives for Toyota.

"I don't think Nissan will do Brundle said, "If we keep going we'll be right there. I'm sure, I'm in good shape, I'm quick and I'm up for it. We can win this." At 39, Brundle is a relative youngster in this event. Bell emphasises with his enthusiasm.

"There's nothing else like it." Bell said. "If I can gel a good car and a proper programme together to prepare for next year. I'd like to do it again. Not to get the sixth win and equal the record, but to compete with the front runners. I love racing and I love Le Mans."

### Lawyer disputes tests on De Bruin

Swimming

THE lawyer of the Irish Olympic champion, Michelle De Bruin, has angrily disputed reports that traces of antificiallyproduced testosterone have been found in one of her urine samples.

The solicitor, Peter Lennon, said the reports were "further attempts to discredit Michelle". chief. Prince Alexandre de He added: "This is a very Merode, had talked of a new malicious piece of publicity or the part of the International Olympic Committee."

Lennon said that the latest type of test undertaken on De Bruin's urine samples had not been approved by the Olympics January. The unnamed officials authorities. "The IOC seem to be saying that in this case 'we are going to effectively hang, artificially-produced testosdraw and quarter Michelle De Bruin regardless'."

Their latest move, he alleged, was designed to "create further doubt and suspicion". They are putting this information into the public domain as part of a softening up process," he said. "It is an attempt by the IOC to interfere with the course of justice."

On the question of a banned said: "I am not in the husiness of discussing hypotheses. t am

in the husiness of ensuring that someone as noteworthy as Michelle De Bruin gets a fair trial from the parties who are accusing her of wrong-doing.

"In this particular case, we have the IOC, who have no particular involvement, releasing evil rumout and innuendo intu the public domain." Reports from Spain said the

Olympic Committee medical evidence of the hanned testosterone hormone and that these new methods had been used on urine samples provided by Ms De Bruin at her Irish home in said a Barcelona laboratory had uncovered signs of terone.

De Bruin could not be ponished even if the result was confirmed, because the test has not been recognised officially as a method for catching competitors who take drugs.

De Bruin created a sensation by winning three gold medals and one bronze in Atlanta two years ago. Last month, tOC officials said indications of substance being found. Lennon tampering in two urine samples provided by her would be investigated.

#### Sporting Digest

### Brady pays heavy penalty of run in with Law

Ice hockey

Stanley Cup.

GAVIN BRADY will forever curse a pair of unnecessary penalties and the squandering of the third semi-final race of his third attempt to win the Hoya Lymington Cup, writes Smart Alexander.

At I-I in a best of five, the New Zealander had Britain's trouble. Law had two penalties against him, which Brady took advantage of with a clear run at Capitals celebrate reaching the Stanley Cup

WASHINGTON was cele-

brating late into the night on

Thursday, as the Capitals,

possible, writes Andrew Mar-

After 24 seasons marked

more often by despair than

delirium, they made it into the

finals of America's most pres-

tigious ice hockey prize; the

By beating the more fancied

Eliffalo Sabres 3-2 on Thursday

night, the Caps won the Na-

tional Hockey League Eastern

Conference finals by four games

shall in Washington.

finally did what no one thought games to two, and were hoping

to two. They will now face themselves champions.

nose over early and, in returning to restart. Law exonerated one penalty and thus managed to keep a lead.

At the second 800-yard beat Law cleverly held Brady out and then quickly executed his second penalty turn to go into the final leg ahead and hold off Chris Law in all sorts of pre-start | a determined bid by Brady to

As Brady had thrown away the chance to win the first race for third place.

either the Detroit Red Wings or

the Dallas Stars, depending on

the outcome of their playoffs.

The Red Wings lead three

to tie up the seven-game play-

where ice hockey normally

warms the blood. The last time

a basehall team won the World

Series was 1924 (They are long

gone, and hopes are now

soccer team, have shown them-

selves to be capable of calling

Only DC United, the city's

Washington is not a town

offs last night.

Orioles)

the start line. But he put his because of picking up a penalty, and then was rewarded with another for being too early into the manoeuvres at the start of the fourth, his goose was cooked.

Meeting Law in the best-ofseven final today will he France's Bertrand Pace, who dispatched another Kiwi, Murray Jones, 3-0 without ever having to stretch himself. .The two New Zealanders

By winning the Prince of

Wales trophy, they have as-

sured themselves of a place in

history, but the Caps will now

want more, as will their success-

ing," said Dale Hunter, the

"It's been a long time com-

The Sahres were by no

means a pushover. Dominik

Hasek, their goal tender, was an

Olympic gold medallist and is

game. But Olaf Kolzig, the

huge Caps goaltender (his nick-

name is "Godzilla"), also played

a blinder, stopping 39 of 41

starved fans.

team captain.

pinned on the Baltimore regarded as the best in the

shots.

will fight it out over five races

Athletics

The American Jeff Hartwig became only the eighth pole valitier to clear six meters on Trusday at the St Denis in-temational meet. Athletes compare the metric bender to the four minute mile. Britain's top sprinter Simmone Ja-cobs, has been forced to pull out of the international against Ireland, Scot-land, Wales and the North after going down with a stomach bug.
The American Robert Howard achieved the longest long jump in the world this year, a wind-assisted 8.37m, at the US collegiate championships on Thursday.

year, a wind-essisted 8.37m, at the US collegiate championships on Thursday, LAAF WEETING (Paris) Thursday's lete results: Mest 100m 1 F Frederick (Narth 100s: 2 Coll Fr) 1077; 3 Buyls (US) 108 200m: 1 S Keist (Ch) 2014sec; 2 C Charal (Fr) 2035; 3 P Savers (Be) 2043, 1 500m: 1 H El Guerrou (Mor) 37m 32.54sec; 2 N Bosch (Fr) 335;79: 3 D Macazud (Fr) 337;2; 4 J Mayock (CB) 3:3738; 1 10m hundles: 1 M Crear (US) 1336; 2 R Korving (Neth) 537; 3 J Perce (US) 1336; 2 R Korving (Neth) 537; 3 J Perce (US) 1336; 4 R Korving (Neth) 537; 3 J Perce (US) 1336; 4 R Korving (Neth) 537; 3 J Perce (US) 1336; 2 R Korving (Neth) 537; 3 J Perce (US) 1336; 2 R Korving (Neth) 537; 3 J Perce (US) 1336; 2 R Korving (Neth) 537; 3 J Perce (US) 1306; 2 R Korving (Neth) 537; 3 J Perce (US) 1306; 2 R Korving (Neth) 540; 3 R Korving (Neth) 550; 3 R Ardl (Fr) 570; Wernsen (Dac; 1 C Aron (Fr) 1059; 2 M Duchnowl (Sele) 200; 3 A Spool (Fr) 150; 1 K Rep) 2:0022; 3 N Duchnowl (Sele) 2:003; 4 Spool (Sele) 2:002; 3 R Duchnowl (Sele) 2:003; 4 Spool (Sele) 2:002; 3 R Duchnowl (Sele) 2:003; 4 Spool (Sel

3 A Acust (US) 192

NCAA CHALHPRONSHIPS (Buttato): Second day of four times 10,00ms in Brad Hause 28/198 and 13,00ms 29/198 and 14,00ms 29/198 and 198 an

Baseball NATIONAL LEAGUE: San Diego 5 Houston 1; Los Angeles 8 St Louis 2; Colorado 5 Art-zona 2 AMERICAN LEAGUE: Toronto 9 Detroit 6:

Cricket SECOND TEST (Galle, third day)

Overreght 122-5
N.J. Astie c Telekergine b Dharmas
†A C Parore c Jayesunya b Dharm t A C Partire culty-eautrys b Dharmasens
C L Ceirns culty-eautrys b Dharmasens
C L Ceirns culty-eautrys b Dharmasens
C Z Herrs c Wickremesinghe b Dharmase
J Westman at Relayetherans
S B O'Cornor not out
Estres (67 rb2)
Po

TO: 5-137 7-137 8-147 8-190 11-109 Bowling: Wickreman, one 7:1-20-0; Dharmanna 24:4-72-5; Bundaramete 28-3-47-4; Alzandramete 28-3-47-4; Alzandramete 28-3-47-4; C. De 38-a 5-2-6-0. SRI LANKA - first traings ST Jayasurha a Harre h 16 

Total (for 3) Fell: 1-44 2-106 3-137. To bath in P TBekerame, (S R Katuwitherana, ) II P K Dharmasena, G P Wickremesinghe, C h Bendaretaka, M Nuralitharan. Bowling: O'Corner 4-0-13-0; Calms 5-0-20-0 Wiseman 15-1-63-1; Veneri 15-3-57-2; Hanti 9 3-23-0 | Irab; Hicksten 7-2-13-0; Aste 1-1-0-0

Cycling Italy's Giarmetteo Fagnini won the 20th stage of the Giro diffatie yesterday. In an all Italian finish Mariano Piccoli was second and Wiadimir Bell third in the 197km leg from Boarlo Terme, Italian Marco Pantani kept the overall lead.

Umpires: E C Coorey and D L Orchard.

The Scottish Football League are still tooking for a sponsor for next seeson's League Cup after Coca-Cola confarmed they are not renewing their backing for the tournament.
INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY (Copenhagen): Derivacet 1 (Moter 90) Cameroon 2 (Omen-Bryck 16, 23).

EVIAN WOMEN'S MASTERS (Evian, Fr): Linet-ing third-round scores: (Gr- and M unices size-ed): 209 T Johnson 70 70 69, 8 Weach (Aus) 69 72 68 211 C Kech (Swel 67 77); M Horn (Swe) 87 72 69 77, A Nicholas 70 70 71; M Horn (Swe) 87 70 72 212 H Allmedmen (Swe) 76 69 78 213 E

Golf

ney 7s 58 7s, P. Meunier Lebour (Fr) 7s 68 7s. 218 S Caredien (fr) 7r 7s 68 7s. 218 S Caredien (fr) 7r 7s 68 7s. 218 S Caredien (fr) 7r 7s 68 7s. L. Davies 58 7s 7s. 218 A Sottmo (Swel) 7s 7r 7s. S Dallangwille (Fr) 68 7s 7s. Prille (Aus) 7s 69 7s. K. Linke (Fr) 61 7s 6s 7s. Fr Pille (Aus) 7s 6s 7s. K. Linke (Fr) 61 7s 6s 7s. Fr Pille (Aus) 7s 6s 7s. K. Linke (Fr) 61 7s 6s 7s. AMATEUR C CHAMPTONSHIP (Meuhrheld): Quarter-final: M. Hilton (East Sussex National) bit I Immention (SA) 2 and 1; S Garcia (Sp) bit A Walmwright (Garlonth) 5 and 4; C Williams (Creigrau) bit G Oginvy (Aus) 4; C Williams (Creigrau) bit G Oginvy (Aus) 4; C Williams (Creigrau) bit G Oginvy (Aus) 5 and 4; C Williams (Creigrau) bit G Oginvy (Aus) 68 prof. S F Futh; 65 C Parry, 67 M West; J L Lewes; T Armour, C Parry (Aus), Bolliams stated): 64 F Futh; 65 C Parry, 67 M West; J L Lewes; T Armour, C Parry (Aus), Bolliams; J Juhnston, J Hart, J Kelly; S Flesch, B Fabet; P Goydos; T Doulds (Nate); B R Brown; J Parrswick (Swe); O Browne; B Kamm; B Gelberger, E Toledo (Nate); T Perrice pr. Otherst 70 S Lyle (SS); S Appleby (Aus); V Snight (Fili).

ice hockey

NHL Final: Eastern conference: Weshington 3 Buffalo 2 (oi) (Washington win series 4-2).

MOTOP FACTING

LE MANS 24 HOURS: Caustrying times for today's rices 1 B Schneider (Cer) Mercedee C.K.-I.M. 3rm 3554-fase; 2 M Brundle (GE) Toyce GT1 3:35582; 3 JM Gounco (Fr) Mercedes C.K.-I.M. 3:36801; 4 J Muller (Gen) Porsche GT1 3:38084; 5 A Michish (GS) Porsche GT1 3:38084; 5 A Michish (GS) Porsche GT1 3:38094; 5 P Martini (It) BMW V12 3:38829; 7 T Boutsen (Bel) Toyce GT1 3:40472; 9 M Aboreto (It) Porsche LIAP 198 3:40572; 9 M Aboreto (It) Porsche LIAP 198 3:40573; 10 J Nelsen (Den) Nissen R390 GT1 3:40489.

EMBASSY WORLD 8-BALL CHAMPI-ONSHIP (Blackpoot): Men's quantur-si-nate: R McKerna (Mel) to P Grundy (bis of Man) 9-3; K Brewer (Eng) to R Brey (bi) 9-5; L Kendal (Eng) bt C Reynolds (Eng) 9-6; C Morns (Eng) 8t J Twes (Eng) 9-6

Rallying SCOTTISH RALLY: Positions after the stages: 1 Evens 36min 14sec; 2 McRee +1sec; 3 Roue + 17; 4 Kytoleho +50; 6 Hig-

ROYAL LYMINGTON CUP: for

THURSDAY'S LATE RESULTS: Elite League: tissuich 63 Poole 27; Swindon 47 Belle Vus 43 Premier League Cup: Shaffield 51 Hull 39.

British Open Squash Champion Michelle Martin has been forced out of the Mercades Open in Seattle by back injuries. The withdrawal moves England's Cassie Jackman up to sec-ond seed in the event.

ond seed in the event.

MERCEDES OPEN GRAND PRIX (Seatths): first-round: S Fiz-Geraid (Aus) bt C
Nich (SA) 6 7 9-1 9-2; S Horner (Eng) bt K
Major I. (u.s.) 9-0 9-4 9-5; S Schone (Ger) bt
S Khan (US) 9-1 9-1 19-4; L Mansh (NZ) bt
F Beams (NZ) 6-1 9-6 9-0; C Owers (Aus)
bt T Malk (Nal) 9-1 9-4 10-8; F Gerovas (Eng)
bt R Grinham (Aus) 9-3 5-9 9-2 6-8 9-7; L
Charman (Eng) bt J Martin (Eng) 3-9 9-2 9-2
9-4; C Jackman (Eng) bt R Macree (Eng)
9-0 9-2 9-4.

Swimming

| International Meeting (Monte Carle) | Thursday's late results: Men: 50m backstroke: 1 L Krazebury (US) 2643sec; 2 R Hass (Lwa) 259. 50m breestartoke: 1 O Malek (Cz Reo) 2355; 2 J Writter (Aus) 255. 60m breestartoke: 1 O Malek (Cz Reo) 2355; 2 J Writter (Aus) 255. 50m breestartoke: 1 O Malek (Cz Reo) 2355; 2 J Writter (Jus) 255. 50m buterfly: 1 I Huspi Juley (Aus) 225; 2 M Foster (GB) 2438. 50m freestyle: 1 A Popor (PLs) 2248; 2 M Weers (Neth) 2252 (100m breastartoke: 1 A Kornsylve (PLs) 1mm (IZ 79sec; 2 Malek 1:037; 3 P Pogers (Aus) 1:038; 4 R Maden (GB) 1:0350 100m backstroke: 1 B Brdgewater (US) 20037; 2 L Krazelburg (US) 2:0077; 3 U Fu (Cn) 2:0276 2:00m breastyle: 1 1 Thorps (Aus) 1mm 4956sec; 2 P vitn den Hoogarband (Neth) 1:544; 3 M Dunn (Aus) 1:5151; 4 A Clayton (GB) 1:5154 5 G Meastows (GB) 1:253 400m raselley: 1 M Hašica (Isr) 4:2270; 2 M Jacobsen (Swei 4:3090; 3 J Andersen (Den) 4:3345 Women: 50m backstroke: 1 A Kovers (Full) 3:92; 2 S Risey (Aus) 3:206. 50m butterfly: 1 J Thorpson (US) 2:799, 2 A Tappin (US) 2:799, 25 R Tappin (US) 2:799, 24 Tappin (US) 2:799, 25 R Tappin (US) 2:799, 27 L Johnson (US) 3:799, 2 L Johnson (Johnson) 2:799, 2 R Tappin (US) 3:799, 2 L Johnson (Johnson) 2:799, 2 R Tappin (US) 5:879; 2 L Johnson (Johnson) 2:799, 2:803, 2 R Noney (Aus) 3:799, 2 N Johnson (Johnson) 2:799, 2:803, 2 A Kovacs (Hun) 2:3014; 3 C Hidretti (Aus) 5:662, 200m breesststroke: 1 Risey 2:2603, 2 A Kovacs (Hun) 2:3014; 3 C Hidretti (Aus) 5:662, 200m breesststroke: 1 Risey 2:2603, 2 A Kovacs (Hun) 2:3014; 3 C Hidretti (Aus) 5:662, 200m butterfly: 1 M Jacobsen (Den) 2:720, 2 Bernett 2:1368; 3 S Skou (Den) 2:7519, 400m

freestyle: 1 2 Bennett (US) 4:1457; 2 A Whr-ney (US) 4:1591; 3 J Malar (Can) 4:1626; 5 V Homer (GB) 4:1681; 7 S Collings (GB) 4:2201 200m madley: 1 M Limpert (Can 2:1671; 2 Rolph 2:1786; 3 M Moravcova (Sic Tennis

FREINCH OPEN (Stade Roland Garros, Paris): Men's Singles, Semi-linat: C MOVI (Sp) bt F MANTILL (Sp) 5-7 6-2 6-4 6-2 Women's doubles, semi-linat: L DAPENPORI (LS) and N ZVEREAR, Gles) bt A KOLINIKOM (Publ end L NELAND (Ls) 6-3-6-2

(PUB end L NeLAND (LS) 58-62 in capitals POWIDER BYTINE TROPHY (Surblich): Worner's singles, Second-round: S Smith (GB) bt. Latimer (GB) 7-5-4-6 6-3; N Duchy (Fr) bt. De Lone (US) 6-4-62 Cunter-Sinals: N Noortander (Nein) bt. Whootpris (GB) 7-6-6-3; N Pratt (Asa) bt. D Chiestown (Cz Rejo) 3-6-5-6 6-3; N Pratt (Asa) bt. D Chiestown (Cz Rejo) 3-6-5-6-4-8 Men's singles, Second-round: A Hermandez (Man) bt M-Pactray (GB) 5-6-6-6-4; A Thoms (GB) bt. E-Eritch (Ref) 7-5-6-2; II Eliis (Arg) bt. T Latifhern (Aus) 5-6-6-2; W Arthurs (Aus) bt. S Stelle (Aus) 6-3-6-2; P Teamacoft (Aus) bt. S Stelle (Aus) 6-3-6-2; P Teamacoft (Aus) bt. S Stelle (Aus) 6-3-6-4.

TODAY'S NUMBER

The titles that the 24year-old American Monica Seles, who today plays Arantxa Sanchez Vicario in the final of the French Open, has won during her tennis career. Her 26-year-old Spanish opponent has won 21.





# Rugged runners of forest and fell

THE fast and physical sport of orienteering is a world away from the memories many of us hold from school trips to the countryside and Scout camp. In short, orienteering is navigating through moor and forest terrain between set marked points using a special map.

Choose your own route, and the fastest competitor to compete the course wins. On paper, simple eoough, but orienteering is extremely challenging. However, its attraction lies in the combination of the stumning places runners get to visit, the mental contest and the exercise.

The sport caters for virtually all ages and ability, from the élite runners who last week tackled a 13km course in the Lake District,



### PHOTOGRAPHS BY RUI VIERA













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# Fiesta final ahead for Spaniards

Tennis n Pars

IT was 15 years to the day since Yannick Noah's home triumph but the cry of celebration at the French Open was "Ole!" The local boy, Cedric Pioline, possessed the strength of will but not of body to prevent Alex Corretja from guaranteeing an all-Spanish final.

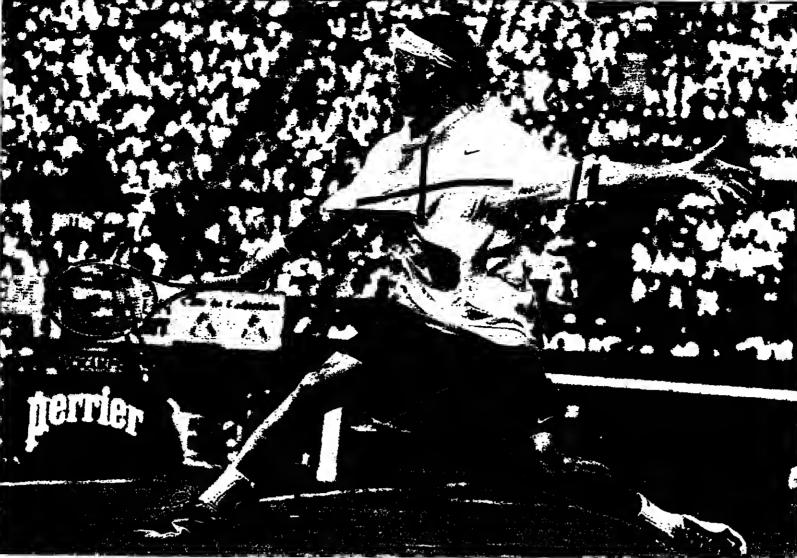
So tomorrow it will be Carlos Moya, seeded No 12, versus Alex Corretja, seeded No 14, the second time in five years that Spain has taken over Roland Garros. In 1994, Sergi Bruguera defeated his compatriot Alberto Berasetgui in four

Corretja defeated Pioline, 6-3, 6-4, 6-2, the Frenchman's struggle to keep pace with his opponent becoming increasingly difficult after he had doublefaulted to lose the second set.

Pioline had played two consecutive five-set matches madvancing to the last four and had spent an hour longer on the court than his opponent, even though it was Corretja who had contested the longest Grand Slam singles match ever recorded (5hr 31 min) in defeating the Argentinian Hernan Gumy, in the third round.

The Frenchman's reputation as one of the sport's bridesmaids is listed in 12 losing finals, including two defeats by Pete Sampras, at Wimbledon last year and the 1993 United States Open.

Yesterday's semi-final was Coretja's first in a Grand Slam championships. He is perhaps best remembered for his match against Sampras in the quarterfinals of the 1996 US Open. On that occasion he double-faulted on match point to the visibly ill Sampras, saying afterwards, "It Majorca juggled with the ball was probably the best match of and headed it over the net with my career, and it is probably the worst one." Sampras went on to holidaymaker on one of his



Carlos Moya plays a backhand on the way to defeating his fellow Spaniard Felix Mantilla in the French Open semi-finals yesterday Photograph: Allsport

racket in hand, he returned to set. Moya, 1-4 down, proceeded he had advanced beyond the the mecca of clay court tennis to win seven consecutive with his friend Felix Mantilla, games, five of them for the loss from Barcelona, to duel for a

Open men's singles final. "The last two days we had dinner together, but on the court we are not friends," said Mantilla. "You try the best for

place in tomorrow's French

yourself." The 21-year-old from Moya followed the philosopby to the letter, winning 5-7, the unselfconscious joy of a 6-2, 6-4, 6-2, after two hours and

The crux came in the third

42 minutes.

of only five points, to take the set. "I just decided to take more risks on my forehand, and everything worked out," he

Moya trusts that his fortunes will continue to flourish tomorrow, when he contests his second Grand Slam singles final. He was defeated by Pete Sampras in straight sets at the 1997 Australian Open final,

second round of any Grand Slam until he arrived at Roland Garros two weeks ago for his third crack at the French title.

"Everything was new for me in Australia," he said. "I think it is different now, because I am not going to the court as a loser, as I did there. Then everything was fine for me to be in the final. Here I want even more, and I am going to do my best to win the tournament, I know I have and that was the only only time a good chance. I'm playing well

right now. I'm going to try to

Spanish men have won eight Grand Slam singles titles, Sergi Bruguera (2), Andres Gimeno and Manuel Santana (2) at the French, Santana at Wimbledon, and Santana and Manuel Orantes at the United States

Moya is also close friends with Corretja, but the same rules apply. "When you get to the court, you fight like crazy. You try to step on him if

## Seles puts her final task into perspective

EXEMPLIFYING the admirable composure which has marked her progress to this afternoon's French Open women's singles final against Arantza Sanchez Vicario, Monica Seles put the event into perspective.

"I do feel happy," she said. It's really great. But I've tried to keep a sense of balance if I win or lose. Once I leave the many things going on outside site, it's not going to make a difference in my life. I'm still going to be missing people that I lost this year and last year."

The words were spoken almost matter-of-factly by an athlete who has spent most of the past five years coming to terms with the harsher aspects of celebrity and family heartaches.

After the death of her father and coach, Karolj, only 12 days before the tournament started. today's activity represents a welcome diversion.

"I'm fighting for every single point," she said. "I'm not going to give a free point. If someone is going to beat me, they'll have to beat me because they're better. But I have my family and I have my really good friends, who have always been there. They will love me if I'm 100th in the world or No 1 in the world.

ties - but some players feel if they're not doing well, people will not like them, and so on. To me it doesn't matter. I'm going to be determined, because 1 know what I want out of my life for the next few years." Seles's stunning semi-final

"I don't have those - I don't

know if you call them insecuri-

victory against Martina Hingis prompted much trumpeting that the real Seles was back the one who dominated before being stabbed in 1993.

John Roberts on how the former No I has battled against adversity

"I don't think the real Monica ever left," she responded, "1 just think that when there's so your life, it's very difficult. I mean, I'm not a computer, able to keep my mind from thinking about life and issues and then go on a tennis court and be really excited about hitting a ball, or to be consistently training four hours every day, six days a week, which is what I used to

Seles has won 14 of her 16 previous matches against Sanchez Vicario, including a 6-3, 6-4 victory over the Spanish retriever in 1991, the second of her three consecutive French Open titles. The last of Seles's nine Grand Slam titles was won at the 1996 Australian Open with a straight sets final victory against Anke Huber.

Sanchez Vicario, who defeated Graf in the 1989 final at Roland Garros and Mary Pierce in 1994, can be one of the most difficult opponents to subdue.

It has taken the Spaniard time to find find form this year, her progress having been hampered by injuries to a leg and wrist. "It's going to be a tough match for me in the final," she said, "But, you know, I will be ready to play."

Seles expects nothing less. "I lost the last time I played Arantxa, in New York in December." she said. "but it's a new match. I'm just going to go out there, do what I can control, and play the best tennis that I can."

## Westwood survives reprimand to chase the leader

Golf

I'H Lee Westwood there is received a reprimand. has been known to win the odd me it wasn't the hush's fault." orksop, has seen to that.

One of Westwood's prime assets is his calm temperament, but he does not quite have a scratch behind the early clubhouse handicap in that department. At .. leader, Patrik Sjoland.

Moya's skills with a tennis

ball on the Centre Court at

Roland Garros were much ad-

mired when he participated in

an impromptu kick-about with

three Spanish compatriots after

hitting with Arantxa Sanchez

Vicario prior to her semi-final

victory against Lindsay Daven-

native beaches. Yesterday,

port on Thursday.

least, there won't be any bush but my grandma told me. His grandmother, who off," Westwood said. "She told lashed out at the land but a second successive 68 left him at eight under par and only a shot

thight by the self-campaign they taken over as the sponsors took aim at the sand. Later, by a swipe as the self-campaign of the laters. Open but that when he had got round to the flogging manner of expressing

Westwood's day did not start well when he drove behind a tree at the 10th and when he bet on the 25-year-old from Yesterday Westwood twice found his second shot had come to rest not just in a bunker but one which had not been raked property.

Having escaped the bunker, hnt with a bogey about to be

All mentioned it on the coin- hardly represents an endorse- first, he attempted to drive the get frustrated but then I try and mentary and Westwood duly ment of the Basil Fawity car- green at the dogleg-left, 317- calm down, take a couple of Monday was his fifth in seven hole and took a double bogey yard hole and found the rough deep breaths quickly and just months. His coach Peter seven. in front of the green.

"That hole is doing my head in," he said. "I still don't know how to play it. Robert Allenby and I were both in the rough and, he had a shot and I didn't because the rough is so

Only able to back out, Westwood then slammed his club in

"National Car Rental may recorded on his card, Westwood the ground. "I shouldn't really lose my temper," he admitted; "It does not do me any good. I think what an idiot I've been slamming my club into the add technically to Westwood's and, after collecting eight birdies

> "I never really whacked it that hard, I was just tapping my divot back at the first and smoothing the sand at the

> Granny Westwood, who won £140 when Westwood was

victorious in New Orleans in . Just ask Colin Montgomerie, April, is not the only one to . The overnight leader quickly fell have the odd word with the man is off the leaderboard when he whose victory in Germany on found the lake at the second Cowen, not having much to say He went to the turn in 39 game, keeps emphasising the in his 64 on Thursday, had to mental side.

"He just tells me not to lose my temper. He says it's my best quality and when I lose that the rest of my game starts to go. You get frustrated now and again, which is only natural."

wait until the 13th for his first yesterday. Two more followed at 16 and 17. The smile was back as be returned to eight under but the course that he had lauded only a day before had responded in a most spiteful way.

"Hopefully the bad round is out of the way," he said, "I'm only one behind and that's encouraging. I'm going nowhere. I'm still up there and I'll still be up there on Sunday afternoon."

Sjoland's had a 67, two outside the day's best from Paul Affleck, to continue the 27-yearold Swede rich vein of form. The Italian Open winner also finished second at the PGA Championship. "I am confident hitting the ball and with my putting which makes it a lot casier." Sjoland said.



TO EXPERIENCE THE DRIVE OF THE PEUGEOT 406, SIMPLY RUN YOUR FINGERS OVER THIS STRETCH OF ROAD.

First Test: Boorish chanting, bloated bellies and tired Mexican waves ride roughshod over tradition as mob rule reigns at Edgbaston

# Beer and jeers drive fans barmy

By Jon Culley at Edgbaston

GIVEN that we now live in People's Britain, to criticise its citizens - particularly its "ordinary" citizens - is to step dangerously near the limits of what is politically correct. It is probable, however, that anyone who might once have savoured the traditional atmosphere of a Test match in England would certainly consider it a risk worth

The atmosphere at Edghaston over the last two days has been well removed from anything that could be considered traditional, although it is fast becoming the norm. The Rea Bank stand that constitutes the most popular side of the Birmingham ground has been filled with "ordinary" citizens, behaving in the way which the citizens of France will soon find so appaling.

It is an indictment of the stanceptable that they could probably be described as goodnatured. All that this means is that they did not actually commit acts of physical violence. Othintoxicated young men that pre-

Midlands football clubs, explored the more repulsive aspects of modern British youth almost in their entirety. For anyone who had hoped

to be absorbed in a fascinating cricket match, their behaviour was a distraction from which it was impossible to escape. If it was not the endlessly boorish chanting, little of which was connected with what was happeoing oo the field, it was their obsession with the tired old Mexican wave. Time and again, arms would flail and bloated bellies thrust forward. The astonishing thing was that so many appareotly sober individuals in other parts of the ground allowed themselves to be coerced into joining in the The mob motive, of course,

is not to watch the cricket but to be themselves watched. This is why so many of them turn up in ridiculous wigs; orange and red are the favoured colours at Edgdards oowadays deemed ac- baston. Others, hoping bored cameramen will ootice them, dress as middle-aged women or "theme" themselves, as one group did yesterday by donning fall-out suits and alien masks.

Woe betide anyone oot of their inclination who had sumably included representa- bought a ticket among them, tives from every one of the who was liable to be abused or entrance.



England's Graham Thorpe, who had scored 10, loses his middle stump to the pace of South Africa's Shaun Pollock on the second day of the first Test at Edgbaston yesterday

mocked at the slightest provocation. No player posted to field nearby can have eojoyed the experience, either. Laughably, spectators have their bags searched for cans and bottles as they enter the ground here, only to he invited to visit the bars once they have actually gained

It will not change now. Desperate to put burns on seats and aware that the game itself is lost on a disturbingly large proportion of their potential audience, the cricket authorities oow sell Test matches not as sporting cootests, hot as five days out, filling the grounds

were adveoture parks. Welcome to the Edgbaston World to tighten the screw against a

The cricket did not escape the mob's attention completely. For instance, every four propelled by an England bat was greeted as though it had won the days when people came solely series. But the tense struggle un- for a nice day out and to watch folding beyood the beery haze some eotertaining cricket.

as Alec Stewart's team fought South African side working hard to redeem themselves, might as well have been happening in another world. Most fans just want a return to the

fect when the players leave Edgbaston?

IT may never be fully explained why two experienced bowlers such as Allan Davaid and Shaun Pollock wasted the conditions so hopelessly on the first day of this Test. The legacy of their performance was apparent on the second day when both

Springboks'

strike attack

still off pace

The pair bowled rather better yesterday, which would not have been hard for them, but they were still some way from

were clearly lacking in confi-

Donald, it is true, was suffering from the recurrence of an ankle injury, but even so he was still slower and less penetrative than one would have expected even though he had the added spur of taking Mike Athertoo's wicket with the fourth ball of the

Pollock was nothing like as threatening as he is at his best either and seemed, in the middle of the day, to be content to bowl a restrictive line outside the off stump. If he had been on form he would surely have fancied his chances of bowling out the batsmen, and if this was a conscious decision rather than just waywardness of line it was quite an admission.

Ooe interesting and pertithe ignominy of what has happened will have a carry-over ef- form.

It may seem stupid even to suggest that such experienced an ear

bowlers will not be able to put all this behind them. If South Africa should lose here the likelihood must be that they will pick themselves up, as the Australians did last year, when, after losing the first Test at Edgbastoo, they woo three of the next four to retain the Ash-

The Aussies were clearly under-prepared but made sure everything was in working order 10 days later wheo the Lord's Test began.

The South Africans are a dedicated bunch of cricketers without quite the same flair. Yet this performance in the first Test may have come as a more devastating surprise to them than it did to the Australians and it will be fascinating to see if their coach, Bob Woolmer, is able to find the magic cure by next Thursday week.

Deep down the South Africans were convinced they would beat England, and yet at the first major outing the cornerstone of their game, the dedicated efficiency, has crumbled. The memories will linger and it may just be that their main attacking weapon will still nent aspect of it all is whether be lacking in confidence when they are oext asked to per-

## Hick on century duty again Adams restored to form

David Llewellyn at The Oval

Surrey v Worcestershire

THE FIRST hundred centuries are obviously the hardest. After that the rest just follow. That is how it would seem, at least, after Graeme Hick reached the 101st of his career and his fourth oo the trot as he did his utmost to foil a push by the Championship leaders, Surrey, to enforce the follow-on.

It is difficult to know Hick is grinding his way to another statistical landmark. the way.

There was a crushing inevitability about yesterday's six hour effort, although without it Worcestershire would oot only have been without the paddle, the canoe would also have overbeen up to their collective oeck in the proverbial creek.

There was some absorbing cricket in the day as the Surrey captain, Adam Hollioake, employed his spinners, Ian Salishury and Saqlain Mushtaq, for the bulk of the day, and given Hick's score they were miserly, whether to laugh or cry when going for barely two an over and picking up vital wickets along

But Hick, as one would expect from this veritable run-machine, made life difficult for them and was oot going to give up his wicket. It took Surrey 297 attempts to get him out, that fiturned and they would have nat delivery of his mammoth stiot (which was howled by Martin Bicknell) ended up being chopped oo to his wicket.

It was his sixth hundred against Surrey, more than any other current player has managed to score, and for the record he is, by all accounts, the 36th player to achieve the feat of four successive hunland was the ECB Technical contest.

Director, Hugh Morris, in his previous incarnatioo as Glamorgan's opener, with his last two innings in 1995 and his first two in 1996. Brian Lara maoaged it the seasoo before. Hick's last seveo first-class

ingings have now produced 736 runs including a fifth hundred and a half-century, while he is now averaging an impressive 78 When Hick was joined by

Stuart Lampitt, the pair of them set out on a 49-over partoership which yielded 115 valuable runs to help maintain dreds. The last to do so in Eng- Worcestershire interest in the

After Gloucestershire had

batted on, to a certain amount

of undisguised disapproval from

Derbyshire, they lost two wick-

ets without a run scored in

Barnett stepped in for the sec-

ond successive day, this time as

Fortunately for them, Kim

Courtney Walsh's first over.

By John Collis at Tunbridge Wells

AFTER two attritional first innings in which little advantage was taken, oo a slow wicket and a lush, grudging outfield, two leading members of the newlook Sussex put the visitors in command yesterday afternoon. But even they could not kick much life into the contest.

The higher-profile ooe is big-money signing from of early-seasoo form ended, shire in search of first XI pering back at midwicket. deserves.

Michael Slater, who has yet

to find his feet after injuring a

hand on the first morning of the

Walsh's second ball and was

well caught low down at mid-on

by Mike Smith: Slater has now

scored only 76 runs in five imnings

- but sympathy for him will be

ing the follow-on.

reduce the prospect of not avoid- stroke of lunch.

season, mis-timed a pull from crease, was palpably lbw to a ball

England call-up for the Texaco Trophy. However, his 84 here left-hander has oow past fifty was a belligereot and, in the four times in his last six Chamcootext of the game, a brisk pionship innings, converting cootribution, gaining further momeotum ooce he had passed a restorative fifty. He

Matthew Fleming.

His partner is less well known. That has oot beeo

and Matthew Cassar helped to his latest mishap came on the spective with a series of well-

Tweats was caught off a glove

down the legside and when Adri-

an Rollins, falling across the

of full length from Jonathan

Lewis, the follow-on target of 310

wisely not steaming in and Bar-

But on this pitch Walsh was

looked a long way away.

From the oext ball, Tim

of it. This compact, watchful ooe of those to three figures in a losing cause against Derby.

With Adams he put oo 138, fell at tea, cutting hard at to add to his solid opening partoership with Tohy Peirce. There was a significant reprieve in the Adams-Khan helped by the confusion in this alliance, however, wheo the match in which he has so far Sussex captain, oo 31, topbeen identified on wire-service edged a pull at Fleming, and

timed strokes; the most spec-

tacular was a hook for six off

Walsh allied to a number of back

foot forces and, overall, he

scarcely made an error in facing

Then, to Gloucestershire's

relief, he played emphatically oo

attempting to square cut Mark

Alleyne. When Michael May

was leg before, offering negligi-

108 balls.

sadly, with his long-awaited cricket, and has made the most. Wells was hlameless, but the shot was misconceived, The weather, ever threat-

ening, finally intervened yesterday morning, but in spite of pessimistic local forecasts only an hour's play was lost to drizzle. This, giveo fair cooditions today, will not seriously effect the equation, and thanks to their graft yesterday this is oow in the hands of Sussex. However, the match, which a sympathetic observer would respect for its grittiness hut their captain, Chris Adams, the scoreboards as his team-mate the former Sussex captain, others would deem soporific; AA Khan. Wasim of that ilk Alan Wells, could not judge the has hardly created the festival troubled Derbyshire. His run moved south from Warwick- ball successfully when scam- atmosphere that this ground

#### Money matters as Australia A withdraw from English leg of tour

withdrew from their forthcoming tour to England for financial reasons and will instead restrict their itinerary to Scotland and Ireland.

The 13-stroog party, coached by, Allan Border, the former Australian captain, were scheduled to play two one-day games against Durham and three-day matches against both Kent and Sussex before travelling north to Scotland.

But they have now decided to opt out of the England leg of their trip, which will reduce the length of their tour by a fortnight.

"It appears that there was some misunderstanding over the financing of the tour," explained Tim Lamb, the England and Wales Cricket Board's chief executive. "The Australian Cricket Board were under the impression that they would be refrom the ICC Development day side.

AUSTRALIA A yesterday Fund towards their touring costs than is in fact the case.

"I feel particular sympathy for Durham, Kent and Sussex, who were all looking forward to staging matches against the Australians, but unfortunately the matter was outside the ECB's control."

Birmingham-born Andrew Symoods, who controversially announced his eligibility for Australia having played for Gloucestershire as an Englishqualified player.

spie, Adam Dale and Breodon Julian, who were all part of Australia's Ashes tour squad last summer, are also included alongside the former Test hatsman Matthew Hayden.

The squad will be captained by Tasmanian opener Michael Di Veouto, who has receotly ceiving a greater contribution broken into Australia's one-



at Chesterfield

Gloucestershire 459-8 dec Derbyshire 222-5

FOR some time yesterday, Derbyshire seemed capable of disproving the theory that although stroke play is not always straight-The tour party includes the forward oo the sluggish pitch here, no batsman should be eas-

> Scoreboard Britannic Assurance

The fast bowlers Jason Gille-

#### a batsman; he made 74 with strokes of great authority and later some vigorous and uncomplicated blows by Karl Krikken

**County Championship** Third day of four: 11.0 unless stated Hampshire v Glamorgan Nottinghamshire won toss mpshire won toss

SOUTHAMPTON: Glamorgen (4) with all second innings wickets standing are 202 runs behind Hampshire (7). GLAMORGAN - First Innings 269 (A Dale 92, M J Powel 52).

2-38-0 Umpires: T E Jesty and K E Palmer. Kent v Sussex Kent won toes

TUNBRIDGE WELLS: Sussect (4) with five second innings wickets stand are 287 runs shead of Kent (5). SUSSEX - First Innings 189 (S Humphries 68; M V Flerning 4-24). KENT - First innings 211 (J () Lawry 4-59

SUSSEX - Second Immings (Overnight 46 for 0) M T E Peirce c Marsh b Patel W G Men et Marsh b Patel C J Adems c Patel b Henring M G Bevan b Patel J R Carpenter b Patel K Newell not out A D Edwards no A D Edwards not out

Extress (b2, lb18, w10)

Rotal (for 5, 106 overs)

Fall: 1-62, 2-200, 3-202, 4-209, 5-252

To Batt S Humphries, M A Robinson, O Lewry, R J Kirtley. Bowling: Philips 15-1-38-1; logiasden 17-1-60-0; Fleming 28-8-61-1; Hooper 23-7-48-0; Patel 23-9-38-3 Umplies: B Laudbeater and J W Holder.

Essex v Nottinghamshire Notingnamente were used in the library of the libra are 20 runs sneed or cases (7).

NOTHINGHAMSHIRE — First trinings
342 (P Johnson 85, G F Archer 63; M
Rott 4-62)

ESSEX — First trinings

Character 920 for 72

Middlesex v Durham Durham won loss LORD'S: Middleaex (7) with all second innings wickets standing are 23 runs ahead of Ourham (7). MIDDLESEX - First Innings 335 (P N Weekes 93 no. J P Hewitt 53; S J Harmison 4-88, M M Betts 4-83)

J Wood not out ... S J Harmison c Brown b Bloomfield a 

0-43-0 Umplines: J C Balderstone and M J

tempered by the knowledge that oett put everything into per- hle footwork to another full-Northants v Lancashire NORTHAMPTON: Lancashire

with all second innings wickets standing are 102 runs behind Northants (7). LANCASHIRE - First Imings 230 (I O Austin 64; F A Rose 5-89) NORTHAMPTONSHIRE - First

Bowling: Mertin 28-7-56-4; Chepple 221-1-82-3; Austin 22-6-58-3; Green 18-6-52-0; Westlichnson 7-1-25-0; Flintoff 12-3-27-0.

Umpires: M J Harris and G Sharp. Somerset v Warwickshire Warwickshire won toss TAUNTON: Somerset (8) with all second innings wickets remaining require 69 runs to deteat Warwick-shire (4).

SOMERSET - First Innings 364 (M E Trescolhick 98, S C Ecclestone 94). WARWICKSHIRE - First Innings 129 (N V Knight 67 no, G O Rose 4-25) WARWICKSHIRE - Second Innings A F Giles o Ecclestone i E B H Giddins not out ... 

oires: R A White and P Willer

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Surrey v Worcestershire Surrey won toss

THE OVAL: Worcestershire (2), with one first imings wicket stand are 165 runs behind Surrey (4). SURREY - First Innings 502 for 7 dec. (N Shahid 124, J D Ratcliffe 100, A D Brown 72, I J Ward 64, B C Hollicake

WORCESTERSHIRE ~ First Innings vernight 98 for 2) A Hick b Bicknet Ires: J W Lloyds and A G T White-

Derbyshire v Gloucestershire ershire won toss CHESTERFELD: Derbyshire (2) with all first immings wickets standing are 459 runs behind Gloucestershire

GLOUCESTERSHIRE - First Innings Score at 120 overs: 5-357 Bowling: DeFreites 33-7-74-1; Deen 32-4-123-3; Aldred 31-3-117-1; Cassar 103-1-58-0; Lacey 10-0-51-0; Barnett 20-7-30-2 pires: B Dudieston and A A Jones.

Yorkshire v Leicestershire Yorkshire won toss HEADINGLEY: Lelcasterature (5) with all second funings wickets standing are 90 runs ahead of Yorkshire (6).

LEICESTERSHIRE - First lanlings

Felf: 1-4 2-65 3-89 4-116 5-169 6-259 7-260 8-307 9-353. Did not but; M T Brimson.

Bowling: Silverwood 173-3-83-1; Hutchi-son 16-5-52-1; Hamilton 19-2-67-3; White 18-3-61-1; Stemp 18-6-64-2; Vaughan 6-1-22-1.

Sunday fixtures

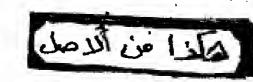
AXA League (one day, 2.0 unless stated) Derbyshire v Gloucestershire

Hampshire v Glamorgan (At Southempton) Kent v Sussex Middlesex v Durham

Northants v Lancashire

Cambridgeshire v Suffolk

Northants v Essex Northumberland v Durham (At South N'land CC) Yorkshire v Lincolnshire (At Sheffield United CC)



Barnett's strokeplay saves Derbyshire embarrassment

length delivery from Lewis, half the side had gooe for 143. Earlier, Windows had batted with some comfort to reach 143

from 287 balls. It was his second 100 in successive Championship innings and with a declaration beckoning he was entitled to feet aggrieved when Lewis, during the course of a well-struck maiden half-century, called him for an unlikely single. He was well beaten by a direct hit from cover.

Yorkshire v Leicestershire

Comwall v Gloucestershire:

Hampshire v Bucking'shire

Bedfordshire v Middlesex

H'fordshire v Warwickshire

Leicestershire v Staff'shire (At Grace Road)

Surrey v Hertfordshire

(At Metropolitan Police CC)

Wales v Wiltshire

Oxfordshire v Notts

Cheshire v Lancashire

Derbyshire v Shropshire

(At Challow and Childrey)

MCC Trophy

Dorset v Somerset

Sussex v Berkshire (At Horsham CC)

(At Dunstable Town CC)

(At Bulmers CC)

(At Newport CC)

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# England hoping 'Baby Whites' can earn respect

By Chris Hewett in Brisbane

THE best efforts of David Campese and Michael Lynagh notwithstanding, rugby union continues to lag behind rugby league in the average Australian's sporting affections. The can seemed wider than ever in Brisbane last night; while the 13man game was throbbing with the partisan passions unleashed by the annual Queensland-New South Wales spectacular, the unioo minority were struggling to work up some enthusiasm for the visit of an England team of less than dazzling anonymity. The State of Origin on the one hand, a complete state on the other. No cootest.

Yet today's Cook Cup meeting between Australia and the old country at the Suncorp Stadinm is pregnant with historic potential; indeed, a decisive victory for either side will have any number of ramifications both on and off the field. If England, with their five new caps and rank upon rank of secondstringers apparently elevated beyoud their station, were to lose by 50 - an eventuality favoured

Roff\_

S Larkham.

G Gregan\_

R Harry...

P Kearns

A Blades

D Wilson....

| Eales\_\_\_\_Queensland, capt

M Cockbain \_\_\_\_Queensland

Replacements: 16 C Whitaker (NSW); I/N Grey (NSW); B Little (Queenstand); 19 V Ofshengaue (NSW); 20 O Finegan (ACT); 21 D Crowley (Queenstand); 22 J Paul (ACT).

caps in their side to face Z

Full-back David Weatherley

and wing Richard Rees, both of

Swansea, are joined by the

Weath prop Darren Morris for

the opening game of Wales' six-

match tour of southern Africa.

babwe in Harare today.

by the harder-nosed Brisbane wing-forward. Scheduled to bookies - the political wrangle make his Test debut on the over who runs what in England will inevitably flare up once

If, however, Tony Diprose debutant, Richard Pool-Jones, were to lead his fresh-faced charges to the most extraordinary triumph since the hiblical David got incly with a slingshot, Clive Woodward and his fellow selectors might be tempted to call time on some eminent England careers. Certainly, the odds would lengthen against the Guscotts, Leonards, Johnsons and Rodbers sailing serenely under their own steam towards oext year's World Cup.

"We had the Baby Blacks back home in New Zealand," said John Mitchell, the All Black No 8 turned England assistant coach, recalling the events of 1986 when his country lost virtually an entire side to a rebel tour of South Africa yet still managed to beat a quality French team 18-9 in Christchurch. "If this game marks the emergence of the Baby Whites, well fine. I'd be one happy guy."

Certainly a whole lot happier than Pat Sanderson, the Sale

\_Richmond

Saracens

.Leicester

Newcastle

Gloucester

Leicester

\_Saracens

Saracens

Gloucester

Newcastle

...Bath

**AUSTRALIA v ENGLAND** 

at Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane

Queensland 14 S Brown

Queensland 13 M Perry.

ACT II A Healy

NSW 2 R Cockerill

Oueensland 8 A Diprose.

P Vickery.

Queensland 7 R Pool-Jones Stade Français

Replacements: 16 \$ Potter (Leicester): 17 D Chapman (Richmond): 8 A King (Wasps): 19 B Clarke (Richmond): 20 D Sims (Gloucester): 21 D. Bell (Sale): 22 P Greening

Mark Jones of Ebbw Vale

Queensland 12 S Rave

NSW 3

NSW 4

some humiliation instead." But for the late cry-offs from THEY have yet to play a match, bour withdrawal of Matt Dawson, the scrum-half and tour captain, England might just Gruther and the rest of the Wallaby hierarchy to spend the rest of the year contemplating an unpalatable diet of their own words, As Rod Macqueen, the Australian coach, acknowledged earlier in the week, his the peaks scaled so imperiously by the Campo generation. Mitchell wants his forwards,

open-side flank, Sanderson went

down with tonsillitis last night

and was replaced by another

the former Wasp who has re-

cently heen playing out of his

socks for the French champions

Stade Français in Paris. "Tm not

intimidated in any way," he

said. "My last game was in front

of 80,000 cup final supporters at

the Stade de France and I'm

sure the French would tell you

nor Woodward were remotely as

bullish yesterday. "I can't fault

the enthusiasm or desire shown

by these young players over the

week or so we've had on the

training pitch, but whether those

attributes will be enough against a big and direct Wallaby side is

anyone's guess," admitted

Mitchell, as opeo and honest as

ever. "Twe oever been in this

kind of situation before. We've

got 80 minutes to earn the

respect of the Australians and

if we fail, we'll earn ourselves

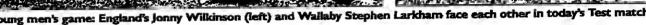
Worringly, neither Mitchell

that I'm worth my place."

honour today. He will accept defeat - the circumstances are such that he has little choice in the marter - but he will not accept capitulation.



WALES have named three new Dennis John, has also recalled 34 Jones (Extended) The Irish centre, Jonathan Bell, is out of his country's tour of South Africa through a haunstring injury, the tour manager, Donal Lenihan, said yesterday. WALES (v Zimbebwe, today, Herare); O Weetherley (Swenses; R Rees (Swensee), O James (Portypidd), M Taylor (Swensee), W Proctor (Lisnell); A Thomas (Swensee),



my best position, I want to

Wilkinson's selection may

owe everything to Paul

Grayson's immineot father-

hood, Mike Catt's post-opera-

tive rehabilitation programme

and Alex King's season-long in-

jury frustrations, hut Wood-

ment. Apart from anything else

he can kick like a mule, both out

of hand and off the ground, both

with his right peg and his left.

According to Matt Perry, the

versatile Bath back who plays at

outside-centre today, he can

switch hooves at the drop of a

hat, depending on field position

rugby public have seen much evi-

dence of that two-footed pre-

cocity. Wilkinson was good

enough to split up the Va'aiga

Not that the great English

or wind direction.

keep it that way."

# Wilkinson bears comparison

Will Greenwood and Neil Back hut England's rugby tourists and the wounding eleventh- are finding salvation hard to come by under the sub-tropical winter suo of Queeosland. Nervous and apprehensive were have fancied their chances of among the words and phrases forcing John O'Neill, Dick Mc- uttered by the senior coaches, Clive Woodward and John Mitchell, as they weighed up the prospects for today's one-off Test with the Wallabies in

And no wonder. Not only will the tourists be looking to a side are only in the foothills of fresh-faced threequarter line and a callow loose trio to man the barricades against a potent Australian outfit, but they will especially, to fight for their ask a mere boy, the 19-year-old Jonny Wilkinson, to organise matters from the fulcrum position of outside-half, a role he has not performed in any of his previous five minutes of in-

ternational rugby:

Yet if England were seeking some sort of psychological sustenance as the huild-up to the game slipped into overdrive yesterday, they could relax in the knowledge that, for all his lack of shaving kit, Wilkinson has far more experience of the pressures and traumas of life at No 10 than his opposite number, Stephen Larkham. Indeed, England's latest contribution to "yoof culture" is a but they are comprehensively

The two No 10s in opposition for today's one-off Test are both international novices. Chris Hewett reports from Brisbane

positive greybeard by comparison with the gangling 24-yearold Brumby from downtown

If Wilkinson is at stand-off long cherished design. Larkham's move from full-back is entirely the idea of someone else, namely Rod Macqueen, the Wallaby coach. "I played there in the school and junior ranks, but that's about it," he admitted during a brief respite from inteosive training in Caloundra this week.

"I don't suppose I've worn 10 on more than three occasions at senior level, but Rod has been pushing me in this direction for a couple of years now and he seems to be thinking in the long term. I don't mind the move-I don't really have any option but to look at it in a positive light but I have asked for some time

to settle in."

All of which should come as music to English ears. Australia has given rugby some of its very greatest play-making outside-halves, from Phil Hawthorne in the 1960s through

to Mark Ella and Michael Lynagh of more recent vintage,

Elton Flatley, the oext big thing as recently as last autumn, has already put a hrilliant future behind him, leaving Larkham to shoulder the heaviest positional hurden of them all.

Wilkinson, bless his youthful swagger, simply does oot see it as a hurdeo. A regular rugby player since turning up at Farnham RFC in a specially reinforced romper suit at the age of four and a specialist midfield architect from the moment he began running rings around under-13 opponents at the age of 10, he has harboured designs on the England shirt that. matters most for longer than he cares to remember.

"I've spent virtually all of my senior career in the centre, so it has taken me a little while to reacquaint myself with the specifics of outside-half play," he said yesterday. The last week of acclimatisation and training have been a great help, though, and I feel I'm back to my old ways.

"It's a big responsibility, I know, but I've basically been a stand-off all my life. I see this as my hig chance; having been berth for love nor money. "It was some point or other.

a matter for the Newcastle management, as it will be again next season," he said. stumped for a pivot right oow. giveo the opportunity to start in

"Quite simply, I'm happy to be in the team. The whole Newcastle experience has taught me a massive amount and while I'm younger that the guys around me, both at club and national level. I'm learning all the time. Rob phoned me on Thursday night actually, just to help me out on a few things I can expect to experience against ward has long seen him as the Wallabies. It was good of worthy of the fast-track treat- him, really helpful.

"Anyway, I'm none too keen on this 'Boy Wonder' stuff, I doo't helieve what I hear or what I read and neither do my friends and advisers, who are the people who really matter. As I see it, I've been selected by the England management because of what they've seen of me; they have a game plan for the Australians and I seem to be the one

they consider best suited to it." Woodward has attempted to lighten the load by asking Tim Stimpson to start as the goalcker even though the hig partnership as Newcastle full-back has not taken aim in launched their ultimately suc- anger since well before Christcessful Allied Dunbar Premier- mas. However, Stimpson will ship run-in back in March, but have to fire on his 1997 Lions he could not shift the venerable cylinders to prevent the oew-Rob Andrew from the stand-off comer from lining up a shot at

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TO HEAR WHAT THE PEUGEOT 406 SOUNDS LIKE, PLACE YOUR EAR NEXT TO THIS ENGINE.

An icon of French football is not just a figurehead at the World Cup, He is aiming for one of the game's top jobs. John Lichfield in Paris reports

ichel Platini was once declared too feeble to play professional foothall. He was asked to test his stamina by blowing as hard as he could into a machine operated by a consultant doctor engaged by FC Metz. After a couple of minutes, the young Platini fainted.

The 17-year-old reject went on to become, in succession: captain of the French team which won the European Nations' Cup in 1984; a European Cup winner with Juventus; the most elegant and exciting footballer of his generation; trainer of the French national team (his only failure to date) and, since 1992, copresident of the French World Cup Organising Committee. Not a figurehead co-president either.

Micbel Platini - he of the suspect stamina - has already gone further in the game than any leading, professional player has ever gone. Like Pele and Bobby Charlton and Franz Beckenbauer, Platini has made the rare leap from the non-commissioned ranks of players and managers into football's Officer Class. Unlike Pele, Charlton and Beckenbauer, he has become, not just an ambassador for the game, but a genuinely powerful, and effective, football administrator.

At the age of 42, the boy with weak lungs is still running. On Monday, two days before the opening game of "his" World Cup, Michel Platini may rise to the rarefied and poisonous summit of the world's most popular sport. He is the de facto "running mate" of the Fifa secretary general, Sepp Blatter, in the race to succeed Joso Havelange as president of football's ruling body. (Blatter was also a professional player but hardly a well-known one.)

If the Blatter-Platini ticket succeeds when the 198 Fifa members vote in Paris on Monday, the Frenchman will take up a post created for him as Fifa's sports director. In such a post, Platini promises to return "football to the footballers"; to halt the drift of the game into showtic". But what does all that mean?

Why have he and the French federation broken ranks with most other European federations in backing Blatter, against the Swedish



Michel Platini (inset, in his playing days) sits alongside Fifa president Joao Havelange (right), despite having sided with Sepp Blatter, the Fifa secretary Photograph; Allsport

head of the European football union (Uefa), Lennart Johannson?

If he wants to change things, why is Platini teaming up with the candidate of the Fifa old guard? Platini is, or was, a universally popular figure. Why are nasty words - like betrayal" being used behind his hack; and not just behind his back?

Platini, the international celebrity, elegant footballer and easy-going personality, has always had a brooding and unknowable side to his character. It is said in the French game that he has dozens of "copains" (pals) - largely from the business and high-finance; to break glittering 1982-6 generation of playthe stranglehold of the "big clubs"; ers - hut oo friends. Beneath the nd make football more "democra- cheery, debonair, occasionally moody, public face, there is still a passion to succeed against all the odds, to prove people wrong, to triumph among the higger boys.

Visitors to his office at the

Cup organising committee in the très chic 16th arrondissement are invariably giveo a little lecture on how, he, Michel Platini, grandson of Italonly his "Brevet d'Etude du Premier

Cycle" (broadly the same as GCSE)

has become the "patron" of people

French educational establishments.

come easily. "Here I have to weigh the slightword for the impact that it might

headquarters of the French World wanker. You make me want to shit. already threatening the life and 18-club first division - Platini was ap-Give me the ball.")

Platini was born in Jouef, a small town near Metz in Lorraine. His father, Aldo, was a teacher and ian immigrants, who left school with amateur soccer coach; his mother,

The FA has declared its support for Sepp Blatter to be the next Fifa who have attended the most elite president Lancaster Gate previously supported the Uefa chief, Lennart Jo-"All I have learned, I have learned hansson, but Johansson has backed from people, not books," he tells the German bid for the 2006 World visitors. But he also admits that the Cup. Earlier this week, Blatter transition from brain-and-foot work pledged support for an African bid. to hrain-and-mouth work has not It is clear the FA believe he is the better of two uncomfortable choices.

operty of the oeighbours.

The pulmonary miscalculations of the Metz club doctor - he still works for the club - proved the good fortune of oeighbours and rivals AS Nancy-Lorraine, Within four years, at the age of 21, Platini was in the midfield of the French national team, scoring with a bullet free-kick against the Czechs. He moved on to Saint Etienne and then Juveotus, scoring the winner with a penalty in a European Cup final; one which he, and the world, would prefer to forget, against Liverpool at the Heysel Stadium, Brussels in May 1985.

After retiring as a player in 1987, and after a failed husiness venture. lish soccer idiom as "You little grace the word's finest stadia, were league rehuffed his demands for an which will shape this World Cup. It who knows?"

proached to join the organising team for the 1998 World Cup. He made it clear in an outspoken interview in the magazine Sport Plus that he was interested, but only if be was the boss. He did not want to be an "ambassador", treated as an errand boy with a big name. It was decided, partly through typically Florentine machinations by the

then French President François Mit-

terrand, that Platini would be one of

two bosses, paired as co-president

with a veteran soccer administrator,

Fernand Sastre, 74, the man who had brought the World Cup to France. As co-presideot, Platini was unpaid but has worked astonishingly have. On the field, I just had to say: Sportifs. He learned to play football Platini became the manager of an hard. "I came to the office every Espece de connard, tu me fais on the street, where he called him-under-achieving French squad from morning," he says. "No ooe expect-week if he wanted to be Fifa chier, donne-mol le ballon." (Which self "Péléatini. At the age of seven, 1988-92. Sooo after resigning as ed that." It was Platini who pushed president ooe day, he replied: "You

move all around the country in the first stage, rather than have a regional base for each group, as in previous contests. The idea was to give the whole of France a chance to see the better teams (and, perhaps, to increase the take from travel and

Secondly, it was Platini who suggested that the organising committee should recruit its own sponsors, on top of the Fifa sponsors, and without going through a recruiting agency. The financial results have been spectacularly good but the sponsorship deals have creamed off a large proportion of the best seats. for the best games. (Otherwise, it is difficult to blame Platini and the other French organisers for the great France 98 ticket row. The rules and the allocation of tickets were laid down by Fifa.)

The boy from Jouef likes to present himself as a plain-dealer: "a man of convictions, not a man of compromise." But his new alliance with Sepp Blatter is shot through with, if : not compromise, then contradictions.

Here is Platini, a football millionaire, who helped line up the big sponsorships for France 98, talking of curbing the power of money in football; and talking of shifting the balance of power away from the "big clubs", back to the "300 million registered players in the world". Here is Platini, who talks of the need for more democracy in football, teaming up with the favoured candidate. of the autocratic, outgoing Brazilian president, Mr Havelange.

Platini is still an immensely likeable man. He may have the combination of talent and international. respect to do great good for the game. It seems to many in Europe, however, that he has been seduced by the power at the apex of a sport which has more member countries ... than the United Nations. To hear him flueotly berating the French . pilots' strike oo radio this week -"the world will take us for a bunch of cretins" - was to know that Platini has made the transition from tracksuit to suit: He has become a football politician.

Asked by France Football this week if he wanted to be Fifa can be roughly translated into Eng- his thunderous free-kicks, later to French coach - because the French through a couple of the decisions should never say oever. In 15 years,

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### Stress corner as Smiler falls vowel of Des' World Cup Party



**CHRIS MAUME** SPORT ON TV

major football tournaments has seen some remarkable lapses of judgement, Lee Hurst's disastrous contributions to Euro 96 being the most recent, with Mike Yarwood's 1982 World Cup performances setting the standard. I'm not hoping for too much from Skinner and Baddiel this time round, either - their Fantasy Football League on the BBC had stopped being funny a couple of series before they realised it.

This week, ITV set out their stall for the next month with Des O'Connor's World Cup Party. It was perhaps the first British programme to subject football to a rigorous intellectual analysis. Professor O'Conoor interviewed Anthony Clare and Oliver James about the psychological void left by the omission of Paul Gascoigne and interrogated the Archbishop of. Canterbury on the England camp's spiritual arrangements. He questioned Salman Rushdie on Iran's chances, then Susan Sontag, Camille Paglia and Germaine Greer discussed

catch up with the men's. Michael Ignatieff sang an old Half Man Half Biscuit number backed by the Demos dancing troupe while Eric Cantona painted a huge picture in the studio. It was that kind of night. The climax was a football-themed slam poetry readoff won by Seamus Heaney, who only qualified for it because his grandmother was born in Jacan.

It could have been like that, . hut wasn't, for some reason. However, though the heart sank at the thought of the permatanned crooner let loose on the World Cup, it could have been a lot worse. He kicked off with the comedian, Alan Davies, whose brief for his allotted 30-odd seconds or so was to ruhhish other sports, particularly the Winter Olympics. He hates curling, for example - "You sweep it up! You threw it out there!

Then there was the non-naff Spice Girls, All Saints, whose cover version of Labelle's "Lady Marmalade" would

ITV's HANDLING of previous how the women's game can seem to suggest that they have character in his stuttering marrun out of material already, M'Lud, and the impressionist, Kevin Connelly, whose act, as I have observed before, consists of acceptable impressious subverted by scripts about as funny as a death in the family. And his Glenn Hoddle is still identical to his Trevor Brooking.

> Alf Garnett had potential, but he ruined it by giving the poor man's Oswald Mosley completely inappropriate views. Alf Garnett would never have condoned drugs in sport, or violence - "Take the violence out of boxing, no one would go, would they?" he said, with admittedly Garnettian logic.

Warren Mitchell doing his

There was a quick chat with Pavarotti, which had some amusement value due to his own vertiginously high opinion of what he used to be like as a footballer - "I scored many goals," he said. "I was very precise. In the final I scored one incredible goal." Then came Connelly's one decent impression, a magnificently abstract Kenny Dalglish, a Beckett ticulacy and fractured syntax.

The coup for O'Connor

was getting the Prime Minister oo the show - although such is the World Cup's PR value it was probably impossible to keep him away. Cynics all over the country are probably even now suffering from posttraumatic stress disorder after witnessing Smiler's nauseatingly demotic performance.

After a long story about

Blair's mother-in-law and the

Spanish prime minister, O'Connor asked him about the Humphrey the cat saga which yielded a mildly amusing (if true) anecdote involving the Italian prime minister asking him "Eh, Tony, why you killa your cat?" It was at this point that the PM, by now relaxing into his man-of-the-people role, bizarrely began peppering his discourse with glottal stops, as if that was going to make him seem more like one of us. So "get" became "ge' ", "little" became "li'l" and "sort of" became "sor' of". I've go' nothing against glo'al stops; they just look forward to.

sound daft coming from the posh bloke who runs the country. When combined with the dainty vowels, the effect was grating, embarrassing even. But then there's little more squirm-inducing than a politician trying to fit in. Even the vowels became more slackjawed as the interview went on, all "yer do" and "yer know". I felt like punching him in the mouth. If England win the World Cup he promised to sing a duet with O'Connor. "It will be with mixed emotions that I watch it now," he said.

That goes for all of us, I suspect. The PM was only second on the hill, to Sir Reginald Dwight, who sang some old rubbish wearing an England shell suit oo an astroturfed stage then submitted to some ferocious questioning. "If England win, will you come back and sing a duet with me?" O'Connor enquired. "If they win, I'll come back and sleep with you," the roly-poly knight of the realm replied. Now we've all got something to

Major weekend fixtures

TODAY Football 

Rugby Union INTERNATIONAL MATCHES Australia v England (11,0) ... (at Brisbarie)

Speedway

INDIVIDUAL: Bernie Klett Memorial Trophy (7:30) (et Mildenhall). Other sports

TOMORROW

Rugby League JIB SPORTS SUPER LEAGUE: Cast ford v St Helens (330); London v Sheffe

Rochdale v Welsefield (30); Whiteheven v Hurslet (330). Second Division: Berrow v Lancashire Lynx (30); Doncaster v Bram-ley (30); Worldington v Oldhem (30); York

Speedway PREMIER LEAGUE: Glesgow v Hull (8.30). EMIER LEAGUE CUP: New Ifield (630) ER LEAGUE TEAM CHAMP-P: Newport v Avens Essex v Exeler

Other sports GOLF: National Car Rental English Oper (Harbury Menor, Ware). TABLE TENHIS: National team finals (Bury St Edmands). TENNIS: Surrey Gress Court Champion Quotes of the week

quite quickly - It's not had a drink in nine days. Paul Gascoigne on events the night before he was dropped from England's World Cup football squad.

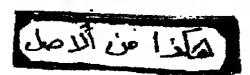
 I went out on a limb for him. I tried so many times to make him see what he had to do, at the age of 31, to deal with the modern game. It is very sad, we'll miss him. Glenn Hoddle. England coach, on dropping Gascoigne.

Yes, I was drunk. I got drunk
■ I completely lost it. I went mad, berserk. I lost my rag big time. I was shouting and swearing. Gascoigne explains how he took the news.

 Maybe it would not have mattered if he had not played in any of the first-round matches. But there would still have been time to get something out of him. Terry Venables, Hoddle's predecessor, on why he would have chosen Gascoigne

It was a strange day and a difficult one for all concerned. Hoddle on telling Gascoigne and five other players they were not going to the World Cup. On Sunday or Monday I sus-

pect I might have used stronger language about what my views are on Glenn Hoddle and the English management. But I have to be restrained. Mel Stein, Gascoigne's agent, who said the player had been treated like a Nazi war criminal.



# Burton out to end his dual identity Knudsen no

Derby's Reggae Boy is confident of a striking show at the World Cup with amaica. Phil Shaw reports

7ith his compact frame, shaven head and penchant for precious goals, Deon Burtoo bears a certain resemblance to Ronaldo. But while the Brazilian's legend stretches from the Maracana to Milan, Jamaica's principal striker goes from adulation to anonymity every time he crosses the time zones between the West Indies and the East Midlands.

Last autumn, Burton helped the Caribbean cricketing stronghold to reach the World Cup finals for the first time amid celebrations that turned into a 48-hour carnival. Within days, he was playing before a few hundred dichards for Derby reserves against Nottingham Forest.

As a colleague with club and country, Darryl Powell has been dideally placed to observe Burton's double life. When I ask Burton about being voted Jamaican sports personality of the year (ahead of Courtney Walsh and Merlene Ottey) and whether he could walk through Kingstoo unrecognised, it is all the rangy midfielder can do to stifle a laugh at my oaivety.

So what would happen? "Td be mohbed," replies Burtoo. "Or something like that." Would it be the same in the streets of Derby? "I doo't think

The Pride Park duo are among seven "Reggae Boyz" who were born and bred in England of Jamaican emigrants. Both previously played for Portsmouth, who, coincidentally, have Paul Hall and Fitzroy Simpson in the squad, but their journey to France 98 has been. anything but the equivalent of a cross-channel hop.

Burton, 21, originally went to Jamaica with the Pompey pair qualified made it to the finals, wheo they were invited for All managers want to keep trials by Jamaica's Brazilian . strengthening their squad." coach, Rene Simoes He They must there has been no duous than lie on the beach, yet want to know," Powell claims, ended up joining a training "is that you want to play and session. Sooo he was spear- that you're good enough." heading a World Cup quest.

Remarkably, the Readingborn attacker did something eveo Ronaldo oever achieved. He scored in his first four qualying matches, goals which carned a lucrative place in the finals for a country who did not even enter the competition in evitably differences between



Jamaica's Deon Burton is impressed by coach Rene Simoes' tactical acumen - "He notices everything, sees what's going on"

afford the entry fee.

Powell, a 27-year-old south Londoner, was in the oext wave of Simoes' recruits from the Premiership. He is used to answering charges that he and his ilk are depriving "geouine" Jamaicans of their big break.

"No one wants to take someone else's place. But in football, wherever you are in the world, that happens," he says. "Not all the players who got England

rather than English. "Uoquestionably," asserts Powell. "My parents were born and raised there. I've also got uncles there. I've been back, and I have a

strong feeling for the island." For all that, there are in-

the Anglos. On a superficial level there is the dressing-room banter. The locals tend to talk in dialect, or patois. Although Powell's father, frieods and relations all converse that way, Burtoo admits they "speak a bit fast for the boys".

There is also a procounced

contrast in playing styles. The indigenous Jamaicans are closer to the South Americans than to Europeans, they argue; reggae with a samba beat. They play at a slower tempo and their touch is very good," Powell says. "It's really weird: the first planned to do nothing more ar- "ill-feeling. "All that the players day I was with them I was woodering 'can they do it?' and I wasn't sure they could. But I couldn't get the ball off them. They're like Paulo Wanchope at Derby in that respect. They just flick the ball off with their chests. You think it's just hit them hut it always goes to a

> Despite the poor standard of pitches oo the island and facilities that are basic by British

several Jamaicans could succeed in Europe. In particular, Burtoo nominates a 19-year-old winger, Ricardo Gardner, as a player who could cash in on interest from Germany, Spain and France.

"They've already got raw taleot," he says. "What we've hrought is that bit of discipline and professionalism. Combine the two and it's a good squad."

At Derby, and previously at Portsmouth, Burtoo and Powell have become accustomed to the blunt Yorkshire geniality of their manager Jim Smith. (Sample: "Someooe told me Deoo would be the star of the World Cup and we'd end up selling him for £15m. I'd said we'd take £7m oow and forget about the other £8m".)

Simoes is a more cerebral character, forever devising strategies on his lap-top computer and seeking ways to foster the spiritual dimensioo within the camp.

"He does prayer meetings in

1986 because they could oot the home-based players and standards, both believe that the dressing-room," Powell explains, "That may be uoconveotiooal for England but oot in Jamaica. The church plays a big part in the community there so for them to pray is perfectly oormal.

> "At Derby we sometimes talk to a psychologist. With Jamaica we talk to God, and that's how we get our strength. He also took the boys into the slums of Treochtown to show them how the people that they're representing live."

Burtoo highlights Simoes' tactical acumeo - "He ootices everything, sees what's going oo" - and is sure Jamaica are ready for Argentina, Japan and Croatia, their first World Cup opponents in Lens on 14 June. Igor (Stimac), Derby's

Croatian defender, came to spy on us in a friendly at Manchester City last month. They're a good side, but we knew that from Euro 96," he said.

Powell watched Argeotina's man" in Jamaica. Another layer win in Brazil oo television. of identity for the man with the double life. "They were awesome. I played

# longer the woolly hero

IT may be two years away and a long way from the thoughts of the European participants at the World Cup finals this mooth, but the qualifying tournament for the 2000 European Championship began oo Thursday.

Eight years ago, when the Faroes made their debut in the event, Jens Knudsen, their goalkeeper, became a hero far beyond the shores of the windswept North Atlantic islands. Wearing his white woolly hat, he kept a heroic clean sheet as the Faroes beat Austria 1-0 in a qualifier staged in Landskrona, Sweden, for the 1992 Championship played in the same country.

On Thursday, though, io Talling, Knudsen was a villain rather than a hero. With the Faroes already 1-0 down, following an early goal from Kristen Viikmae, to Estonia in the opening Euro 2000 qualifier, the goatkeeper dragged down Indrek Zelinski in the penalty area in the 41st minute. A red card, and then a penalty converted by Martin Reim, followed.

Knudsen's replacement in goal, Jakup Mikkelsen, was beaten three more times in the secood half by Sergei Terehhov, Andres Oper and Urmas Kirs to give the Estonians a 5-0 victory.

Sampdoria and he was fantas-The match at the Kadriorg stadium was played, Scottish "I also saw them beat the fans might like to learn, in Republic of Ireland in Dublin. daylight. A year and a day The Irish lads did well, but Arafter Thursday's fixture, the geotina could beat anyone on Scots are due to return to Tallinn - the scene of their As for Japan it transpires famous 'match that oever was' - for another European that Chelsea's Jamaican defender, Frank Sinclair, is a J-Championship qualifier.

Andorra

against (Ariel) Ortega against

League connoisseur. "He tells

me they're technically gifted,"

says Powell. "It's going to be a

There has been talk about

Jamaica providing a respite from

the wio-at-all-costs mentality;

"It's not going to be a party,"

Burton says. "But a chance for

the players to show off their tal-

Spoken like Rooaldo, al-

though Burton's comparatively

Europeao appearance has

earned him the nickname "Ger-

the Barnsley of France 98.

our country is all about."

hard, hard match."

tic theo too.

their day."

THE civil servants, firemeo, insurance salesman, students and the other part-timers who make up Andorra's national team will be able to dine out oo the events of could have chased after ooe Wednesday for weeks to



ar-

ites at-

**X3T~** 

#### AROUND THE WORLD BY RUPERT **METCALF**

In the shabby surroundings of the Stade Municipal de St Ouen, the bome of Red Star Paris, the Andorrans took on mighty Brazil in a France 98 warm-up match for the world champions.

Before the game the press were checking their history books for Brazil's record win (10-1 against Bolivia in 1949). A thrashing of similar proportions was predicted - but in the event the South Americans only managed a 3-0 victory with goals from Giovanni, Rivaldo and Cafu,

It was almost a triumph for little Andorra - eveo though Brazil seemed more concerned with establishing a new record of bow many passes a team could string together without losing possession, rather than rattling goals past their opponents' defence.

The match, televised live back in Brazil, was arranged with only 10 days' ootice. Justo Ruiz, one of Andorra's players, said: "Wheo we heard it was a reality, we weot absolutely crazy with delight. I never thought I would have the chance to play against the world champions. And it wasn't the whirlwind we expected."

Ruiz only had one hig disappointment - most of the Brazilians refused to swap their shirts after the match. "I of them, but I have my pride as well," he said.



**FOUR DAYS** UNTIL THE WORLD CUP FINALS BEGIN

TO SENSE THE FEELING OF SPACE IN A PEUGEOT 406, FIND AN EMPTY ROOM AND HOLD THIS AT ARM'S LENGTH.

# Robson's rebels left punch-drunk



After a terrible start to the 1986 finals, some senior England players made a stand against the management. Ken Jones reports

This and the difficulty aris-BRYAN ROBSON carried off, Ray Wilkins sent off, struggling to stay level at 0-0 against Morocco and defeated by Portugal in their opening game; no wonder that a revolt broke out in England's dressing-room. "We're always being told to think for ourselves, now somebody had better start thinking for us," one of the players said.

Peter Reid was warming up to replace the stricken skipper but England's problems ran deeper than depletion. "It was a mess," Terry Fenwick recalled. "Between them, the manager and the coach [Bobby Robson and Don Howe] had decided to play with our full-backs pushed up, leaving me and Terry [Butcher, England's other centre-hack to cover the width of the field. I wasn't comfortable with the idea, less when we tried to make it work. Trying to deal with passes knocked into the spaces behind Kenny Sansom and Gary Stevens, we were all over the place."

ing from Glenn Hoddle's flawed positional sense. The most gifted English footballer of his generation, Hoddle had become a totem for the body of opinion that blamed England's comparatively poor World Cup record on a preference for industry over craftsmanship. Brazil would make him an automatic choice," the complaint went.

In fact, the denial of that distinction in England stemmed not from a deficiency in Hoddle's labour but his instinct. The space on a football field to be found without a great deal of effort is that between two players on the same team, as long as they can see each other. Hoddle didn't have an eye for it. He didn't hide from the ball but getring it to him was consistently

This, more than any other factor, explains why Hoddle's international career didn't come

up fully to expectation. Nobody football admired technical ability more than Robson's predecessor, Ron Greenwood, but he, too, had reservations about Hoddle, using him only twice (once as a substitute) in the 1982 World Cup finals.

Although Hoddle was a fixture come the 1986 finals, England still weren't getting the full benefit from his deft touch and imaginative passing. Because Hoddle rarely showed up in his vision, Wilkins fell into his old habit of playing square which made England'a movements predictable.

It is not meant as a slight to Wilkins, but his 40th-minute expulsion in Monterrey and the introduction of Reid as a replacement for Robson served to bring Hoddle more into the game. Reid moved the ball to where he could see Hoddle and forced it at him.

not to try to exploit numerical

advantage and England hung on for a goalless draw that caused a disturbance among their supporters, many by then anticipating that Robson's team would soon be out of the tour-At a squad meeting later that

day, Fenwick called upon Robson to think again about England's strategy. "I was so annoyed about things that I just stood up and spoke my mind," he recalled. "I told the manager that unless we got back to a system we were used to he might as well book a flight home. Thinking about it now, I was probably ont of order but somebody had to say something. The room went very quiet. Players don't want to rock the boat but when I looked around Peter [Reid] and Alvin [Martin] were on their feet agreeing with me."

Reverting to a flat back-Fortunately, Morocco chose four, abandoning the idea of a winger (Chris Waddle) and a tall target man (Mark Hateley), Robson brought in Trevor Steven and Steve Hodge to play wide in midfield and Peter Beardsley to provide close support for Gary Lineker.

England, the other results in their favour, would have been safe with a draw against Poland; instead they woke up and swaggered into the next round, Lineker scoring a hat-trick, his firm ankles in front of goal a priceless asset when attacking low crosses. For the first time in 32 attempts, England had won by more than two goals. "It was different again," Fenwick said. "A lot more purpose and understanding."

An administrative cock-up left England with inadequate accommodation, not for the first time, but they were on song again when defeating Paraguay 3-0 in Mexico City. Two more ing the part.

The 1990 finals signalled the end of romanticism and the beginning of an age of players as public property. Terry Butcher tells Ken Jones how the pressure grew

on Bobby Robson's squad both on and off the pitch

Diego Maradona beats Peter Shilton to the ball and ends England's 1986 campaign with the infamous "Hand of God' Shilts, but the team as a whole a long dribble that took him past win matches even against Ar- ever he got the ball."

gentina, their opponents in the quarter-finals, Diego Maradona and all, "Of course, we spoke a lot about how best to try and keep Maradona away from our tain, Peter Shilton, Shilton, goal," Fenwick said. "We didn't think that man-marking him [West Germany gave the job to Lothar Matthaus in the final] because nobody in the squad was used to it and he was so powerfully clusive with that strength in his pelvis and legs. It had to be collective respon-

The closest player when Hodge sliced a clearance back towards his own goal was the England goalkeeper and capover six feet tall, Maradona barely five feet five inches. No contest in the air but Shilton was slow coming out and took his eye off the ball. Maradona got a fist to it. "We couldn't believe the referee when he gave a goal," Fenwick said. "The linesman must have seen what hapshould have caused a lot more commotion [shades of Walter Winterbottom's remark when England stood unprotesting as Brazil conned them with a freekick in the 1962 finals]."

England were still fuming when Maradona scored one of the great World Cup goals just four minutes after the "Hand of God' incident. Gaining possession near the half-way line -"some of our players were still so upset that they weren't con-

three tackles, Fenwick's included, before dummying Shilton.

The fea

Vameroor!

The introduction of John Barnes almost changed things. Going past two men, he laid on a goal for Lineker and almost. another when a header from his cross was kept out on the goalline.

Looking back, Fenwick is glad that a marvellous goal stood between the two teams. "It would be rotten to think that" the little bastard cheated us out



for Lineker and Hoddle lookcentrating enough," Fenwick pened, but he bottled it. I sibility, trying to make sure said - Maradona launched into Argentina 3 W Germany 2 followed the referee, so did that someone was close when England now expected to England's gritty struggle ends in tears



Argentina 2 England I

Belgium I Spain I

Terry Butcher (left) consoles Paul Gascoigne after the Photograph: Allsport semi-final defeat by Germany

VETERAN World Cup observers, including one or two with a full attendance record since the Second World War, agreed that Italia 90 was the worst in their memory; no outstanding team, style at a premium, hardly an individual performance worth speaking about. "The game has lost it's soul," João Saldanha, the journalist and former Brazil coach, said shortly before his death in Rome just a few days after Germany defeated Argen-

tina in the final. Thinking modern developments a curse, especially the rapid spread of commercialism, Saldanha went sadly. "The last of the romantics," someone said of him and certainly there were precious few at work in the finals that summer.

Not that anybody in England's camp cared a hoot about criticism as plans were laid down for a semi-final against West Germany. Only in the year of their sole triumph had England progressed so far. Twice almost out, first against Belgium, then against Cameroon, the great prize glittered in their imagination. "By then we felt capable of winning it,"

Terry Butcher recalled. Butcher, now a hotelier in Scotland [he also works with the youth squad at Raith Rovers) after ending his playing career on a high note with Rangers, will he at the finals in France working for BBC Radio. "It's going to bring back a lot of memories," he said.

tion for three World Cup squads when making a total of 77 appearances for England gives Butcher a rare insight but it is Italia 90 that stands out most vividly. "I started out wondering whether I would get into the team," he said. "I didn't seem to fit into the sweeper system Bobby Robson had in mind and then I behaved stupidly at the end of a warm-up match in Tunisia, taking off my shirt and throwing it

'Cameroon tore us to pieces. We knew they had extremely talented players but we weren't prepared for their teamwork'

on the floor. It was reported as a protest but in fact I was angry with myself for playing so

Robson was again under fire, England's sub-standard display in North Africa leading, typically, to a tabloid witch-hunt. 'For Allah's sake go," was just one of the smart-aleck headlines. "Things had changed a lot during my time in the game,"

The achievement of selec- Butcher said, "With Ipswich and England I had got on well with sportswriters, feeling that the majority could be trusted. But by then there were people around who had been sent just to dig up scandal, watching our every move, making something out of nothing."

It didn't help when a story broke alleging that a liaison officer, Isabella Ciaravola, had become involved with members of the England squad in Sardinia. "That put the lid on it." Butcher said. "We became wary and Des Walker refused to speak with the media under any circumstances. It's even worse now. The players know about me, know what I did in the game and in that sense I'm still one of them, but they aren't all that keen on giving an interview.'

The doubts Butcher held eight years ago were removed when Robson included him for England's opening match against the Republic of Ireland in Cagliari. Drawn into the direct method that the Republic's charismatic manager, Jack Charlton, employed with considerable success, England never got going. "No matter what people said about Jack's policy the Irish could make life

Top of their group after de-feating Egypt 1-0, England were difficult," Butcher added. Gary Lineker's goal after only nine minutes was the start extremely fortunate to carry England wanted hut, with 17 their challenge past Belgium. minntes of a grim encounter "In truth they deserved to beat us," Butcher said, "hut that's left, Kevin Sheedy equalised for football and David Platt made



England | Egypt 0 SECOND ROUND England 1 Belgium 0 (aet) QUARTER-FINALS England 3 Cameroon 2 (aet) Germany | Czechoslovakia 0 Argentina 0 Yugoslavia 0

managers, Robson altered his

strategy for the next match

against the Netherlands, de-

ploying the swift Walker as

cover for two central markers.

"The Dutch had some terrific

players - Van Basten, Gullit,

Rijkaard, Koeman - but they

didn't seem half the team that

won the European champi-

onship a couple of years

earlier," Butcher said. "Not

that we had much to shout

about." Mostly the form of

Paul Gascoigne, his powerful surges from midfield giving the

Netherlands their most worry-

Italy I Rep of Ireland 0

Never the most decisive of his name with the volley that

SEMI-FINALS England | Germany | Argentina | Italy |

THIRD PLACE FINAL Italy 2 England I.

Germany | Argentina 0

More good fortune to come. "I have to admit it," Butcher said, "Cameroon tore us to pieces. We knew they had some extremely talented players but weren't prepared for their teamwork and effort. We were down 2-1 with about 15 minutes to go when the manager replaced me with Trevor Steven. Sitting on the touchline I couldn't see us scoring until Gary [Lineker] panicked them into giving away a penalty. Another in extra-time put us

It all ended with penalties and tears. "We were transformed against Germany, hitting our best form hut not getting that bit of luck all teams need," Butcher said. "The only genius shouting." Butcher said. It's a

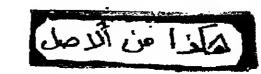
through hut my goodness it

the takers is enormous." Butcher said. "Walking up to the ball knowing that hillions are watching. You can practice every day, put the ball exactly where you want it time after time and still make a mess of the responsibility. Nothing much disturbs Stuart Pearce on the field and yet he couldn't drive his kick bome. Chris Waddle strikes a great ball, but he failed, too."

and Waddle being inconsolable. his heart going out to them. And the Germans so clinical. "Just like they were again when it came to penalties in Euro 96." he said. " All of them ice cool."

wards Germany's hus drew alongside England's. "We could see hear their players singing and Germany showed was from the sound he will always remember.





penalty spot. The pressure on

Butcher remembers Pearce

Outside the stadium after-

Savage

returns

for test

against

**Tunisia** 

ROBBIE SAVAGE seems certain to be in the Wales side for their match with England's first

World Cup opponents Tunisia

was ruled out of the 3-0 win in

Malta on Wednesday - a game

played in front of just 3,000 fans

on the holiday island. But the

Tunis tussle will be very different. The game will be Tinisia's

last match before they head for

France and their game in Mar-

ground wanting to give their

team a riotous send off and

Gould said: "Tunisia will want

to go to France oo the back of

victory, but for us it is impor-

tant too. It's a great prestige

match. They're England's first

opponents in France and it

would do us the world of good

to get a good result against

because of a worrying groin

Savage was left out in Malta

There will be 70,000 at the

seilles with England.

The Leicester midfielder

ght

ided press conference yesterday should have taken place on a day when the papers were full of the night-clubbing indiscretions of his England colleague Teddy Sheringham.

reports

England's teenage

view of his World

Cup responsibilities.

Mike Rowbottom

Or perhaps it was fortunate. Because the prodigiously talented Liverpool forward could hardly have come out hetter from the perceived comparison.

While the 32-year-old Sherngham chose to spend his last spare days before the World Cap finals visiting Algarve night spots, the 18-year-old went back to his family home in Chester, which he left yesterday morning, to rejoin the England party-appearing en route at an event marking his new six-year deal with Umbro.

Owen, old beyood his years off the pitch as well as on it, remained guarded in his comments about the behaviour of Sheringham and Paul Gaseoigne, whose lack of discipline was a contributory factor youngster would ensure his he careful. in his being dropped from the final World Cup squad

"I think any professional do what they feel is right, so it's down to them," he said, without being drawn into any par-

imals starting on wednesday.

'n Wednesday. "A judicial in-

vestigation has been opened



England's Michael Owen is high in the sky with the Millennium Dome construction behind him before he joins up with the England squad

Little fear that Owen will go partying

expressed the hope that the lifestyle was an appropriate one. It was a reference which Owen felt moved to clarify with the England coach, who told

Hoddle appeared to sound a that oo one had a problem, hut oormal 18-year-olds do, but it warning oote to him when he that there were so many pitfalls in the game now that we had to

"Footballers are more in the limelight now, and you've got to be more professional off the pitch nowadays than you Soon after Oweo came into said. "People like Rio Ferdinand mobbed. I would prefer to be copter which eventually whirled

goes with the job. And I wouldn't change my life for anything else. I'm sure there are lots of 18-year-olds who would willingly change places with

him that it was not directed per- had to. So that has changed in yesterday's appearance mirsonally. "Glenn said he was talk- the game. It's unfortunate that rored his sudden arrival on the as the major influence in his ing about a whole bost of young some players don't get time to international football scene-he lads in my age group," Owen themselves without being arrived from the skies in a heli-

the England reckoning Glenn and Emile Heskey. He said able to go out and do the things him away again into the England fold.

Owen, who used to box as a schoolboy and has an eight handicap as a golfer, comes from a large sporting family. He will be watched in France by his mother, his youngest sister and Owen's mode of transport to his father, Terry, a former Evertoo forward whom he describes

would concentrate on watching season. To think that I'm going the Liverpool forwards whom he was eventually to join - Ian Rush and Robbie Fowler.

He acknowledged that a season which has already seen him become England's youngest-ever goalscorer has been close to bewildering. "It all happeoed so quickly," he said. "To achieve the things I have so far has been great. I wasn't even Pather and son were regulars expecting to play many games out there and not settle for anyat Anfield, where Michael for Liverpool at the start of the thing less than first place."

couple is a tremendous feeling. I would have settled for going to one when I was a youngster. Asked if he felt England could win, he replied with conviction: "Yes, I believe so, I think every other player in the camp

believes so. There is oo reason why we shouldn't, so we will go Romanians change venue

injury and was forced to spend much of his time at the team to the World Cup and I got a hotel. Gould blooded a string of chance of playing in another youngsters against the Maltese but will want a player of Sav-

Photograph: Allsport

age's experience in his midfield. Tuoisia have looked impressive despite going down 2-1 to Austria and 3-2 to Chile in their previous two friendlies in France. The Africans will fly after the game to their French base to complete their preparations to play England.

Savage said: "The injury is OK oow and it's fair to say that I could oot have managed two games in four days."

Gould added: "We decided to keep him back for the big ooe. If he'd played against Malta, it's unlikely he would have made the Tunisia game.

"I've still to decide how many of the kids will play in this ooe. There's a few injuries to sort out and I'll also wait to see whether Steve Jenkins has got over an ankle injury he suffered while training in Malta." The chances are that Craig

Bellamy, who made such a fine impressioo on his first full match in Malta, will be retained in midfield, with Savage alongside him, However, Gould seems less likely to retain the 17year-old Ryan Green against Tunisia's World Cup attackers.

## Cameroon in ticket scandal

THE president of the football association in Cameroon, Vincent Onana, is being investigated by judicial authorities unable to get tickets meant for cerned to explain this affair," he over the alleged sale in Europe them and the Channel Four said. of World Cup tickets allocated programme Dispatches has alfor the country's fans, Cameroon football officials and nounced yesterday. leged that tickets for Cameroon fans were on sale in London.
Lameroon have been drawn in group B with Austria, Chile It was confirmed that Onava

was stopped by police from travelling to France on Wednes-In a television interview in day night for the World Cup Cameroon on Sunday, Onana any way blame for the shortage The sports minister, Joseph of tickets in Cameroon and ac-Owona, confirmed Onana was . cused the government of failing under investigation but did oot

comment on the police actioo to finance their purchase. Owona reacted with a stateagainst Vincent Onana," the decounced Onana's argument minister told state television on as "a simple fabricatioo". "The government and the minister of French fans. The court said it produced.

Fans intending to travel to sports deny any responsibility in could oot rule in the case. "It France to support the "In- the illegal sale of tickets and domitable Lions" say they are calls on the organisations coo-

> had been stopped from flying to France on Wednesday because of the ticket probe, although they said his passport had not been impounded. The official ried out by the French govern-Capetron delegation, includ- ment suggested that World Cup

last night. to redistribute World Cup ment on Monday in which he tickets that a group of 32 Eugrams used on the tickets, could decounced Onana's argument ropean MPs contended were be bought on the open market

was thrown out on a technical grounds. The court has not actually dealt with the matter as such," said Phillip Jenkinson, at-Sources at the immigration torney for the MPs, who argued police confirmed that Onana that World Cup ticket sales had been in contravention of European law. by, favouring French buyers.

> tickets, supposedly unforgeable, can be copied in less than four hours with easily obtainable special inks, and even the holograms used on the tickets, could

ROMANIA'S Football Federation has changed the venue of today's World Cup warm-up match against Moldova amid acrimony between the national team's fans and players.

"The FRF has decided to move Romania's last frieodly against Moldoya because of disputes between the players and Bucharest's spectators," Also yesterday, tests car- the FRF general secretary, Adalbert Kassay, said yesterday.

Kassay said the kick-off for mania's last friendly before the World Cup would also he hrought forward by two hours Meanwhile, yesterday, a technology and materials. A as the stadium in Poliesti, 60 Paris court rejected a demand senior Freoch official said that kms north of Bucharest, has no

floodlights. The move will please Romania's players who have unfairly allocated in favour of and perfect forgeries had been complained vigorously about the fans' taunts in Bucharest.

Chelsea's Dan Petrescu said alternative ground in the area Romania should consider playing their matches further away from the fans who barracked the team during Wednesday's friendly against Paraguay.

"Maybe we should not play in Romania anymore," he said. "Maybe we should play in... Bulgaria." Spain's coach Javier Cle-

meote is unhappy with his after inspecting it and finding been passed the ball. The coach inspected the

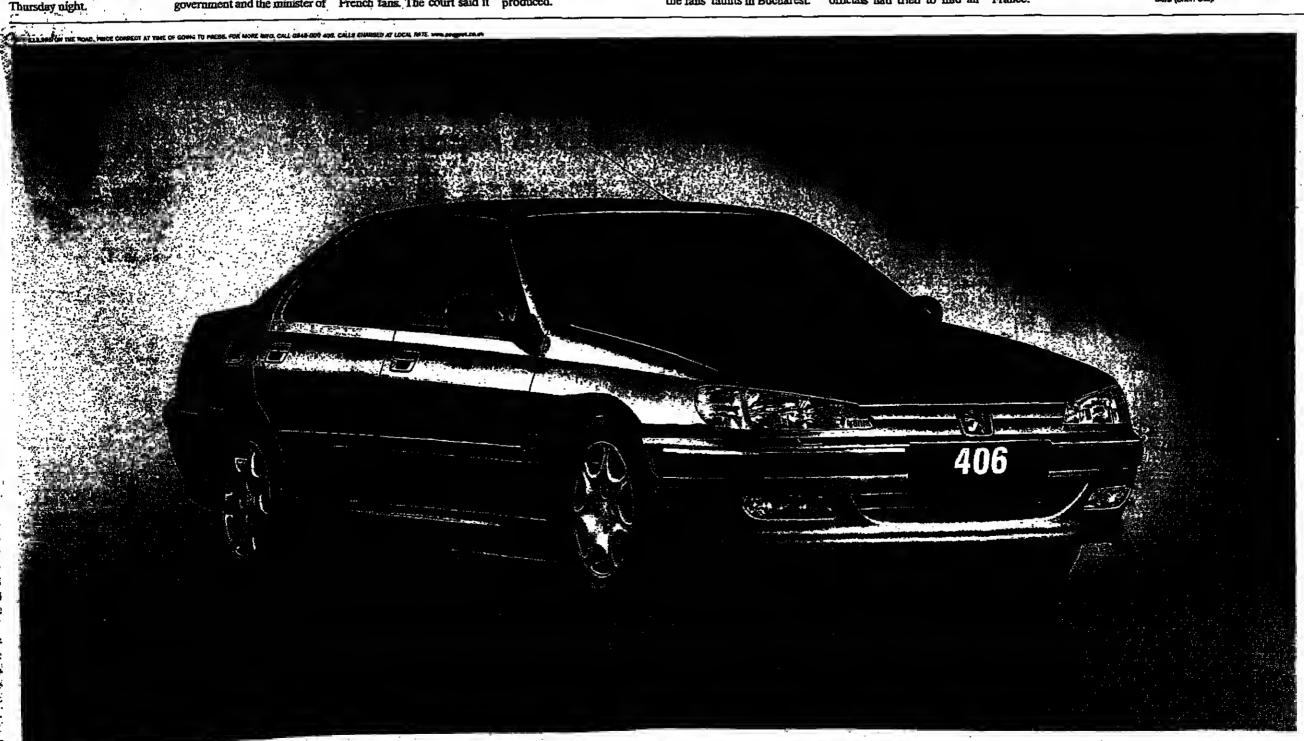
pitch at Chantilly, to the oorth of Paris, oo Thursday night immediately after the Spanish squad flew into Charles De Gaulle airport for the World

officials had tried to find an France.

but the other main one at nearby Senlis had already been allocated to the Italian squad. Mario Zagallo, Brazil's

coach, insisted yesterday that there had been on fall-out with his volatile striker Edmundo. Edminado was reported to be in-Polyed in a dicessing room argument following Sunday's friendly against Athletic Bilbao World Cup training ground after claiming that he had oot

In Argeotina, a judge vestigatingthe case of Diego Maradona allegedly shooting four reporters with an air rifle granted the former Argentina captain permission on Thursday to leave his country for 15 days to go to watch his coun-Spanish reporters said try in the World Cup finals in



TO KNOW HOW IT FEELS TO OWN A PEUGEOT 406, LOOK AT THIS AND SMILE.

PEUGEOT

First Test: South Africa bowlers fight back after a poor first day but the home side's batsmen manage to continue their good work

# Ramprakash keeps England on track

By Derek Pringle at Edgbaston

ALEC STEWART will be thankful that his first two days as England captain were not reversed as both South Africa and the Edgbaston pitch gave a truer reflection of their character. With more than 450 runs on the board, England remain firm favourites, though the visitor's retort will have at least brought a glimmer of hope, where none had any right to a wicket.

South Africa leave little to chance and their coach, Bob would have Woolmer. need to bowl a fuller length. Fortunately for their captain, they obliged, and England found runs far harder to come by than they had only 24 hours

Even so, with England resuming on 249-1, any pressure would have been firmly on the South Africans. By their own unremitting standards, they'd had a had first day and amends had to be made sooner rather

The first wicket came before their seats. With 103 runs burning a hole in his back pocket, Michael Atherton was perhaps destined to be extravagant.

#### Edgbaston scoreboard

Second day; South Africa won toss ENGLAND - First luning (Overnight: 249 for 1) M A Atherton c Boucher

\*†A J Stewert c Culinan N Hussain low b Adems G P Thorpe b Pollock ... M R Ramprakash b Donald ....49 M A Eatham b Adams ... D G Cork not out . RDB Croft not out. Extras (b17, 1526, w8, rb2).....53 Total (for 7, 171 overs) .....417 Fell: 1-179, 2-249, 3-309, 4-309, 5-329, 6-356, 7-411.

io bat: D Gough, A H C Ha SOUTH AFRICA: G F J Lieben-berg, G Kirsten, J H Kallis, O J Cul-linen, \*W J Cronje, J N Rhodes, S M Pollock, †M V Boucher, L Klusen-er, P R Adems, A A Donald. Umpires: D R Shepherd and R Tiffin.

Whatever his state of mind, his attempt to force Allan Donald off the fourth ball of the second over was ill-judged, the extra bounce ensuring that the edge ended in Mark Boucher's

It was the kind of shot Atherton had eschewed for most of the previous day and its boldness allowed South Africa to achieve in five minutes what had taken them almost four and a half hours to do on Thursday - take

The early breakthrough, a collapse. Coming to the wicket drummed into his bowlers the a place lower than had been planned, Nasser Hussain imway down.

After an initial burst from his two frontmen, the South Africa captain, Hansie Cronje, brought on his spinner, Paul Adams, from the City End, alternating most spectators had settled in his three main pacemen from the other. It was, give or take a few overs from Jacques Kallis, the pattern for most of the day, and one that, until the posttea session, threatened to get South Africa hack into the

by the unorthodox consistency of Adam's left-arm spin. By his crawl and having carefully made the other end.

invest more significance in a person's actions, it was just the kind of shot the old Stewart a tad premature.

Never at his strongest against spin, Stewart was slowed normally fluent standards, England's captain was reduced to a his way to 49, he cautiously played out a maiden to Adams only to fall to a loose drive at

lowed his skipper back into the pavilion, the victim of a cruel jape by Dame Fortune. Playing

while clearly boosting South Africa's bowlers, did not herald mediately announced himself with a sumptuous cover-driven four. Other houndaries followed, including a majestic pull off the fiery Shaun Pollock, who having sensed a quickening in the pace of the pitch, couldn't resist trying one half

Although power tends to

claims, however, that the captaincy is affecting his batting are Four balls later, Hussain fol-

was undone by a grubber that barely bounced six inches above the ground, which even at missal in the third Test in produced something equally

Vaihalla.

The double strike, which came while the score was on 309, might have been guilty of. Any Adam's reduced pace, is lethal. left England bereft of It was reminiscent of his dis- momentum. The loss, too, of Graham Thorpe, England's re-Trinidad, when Carl Hooper cent player of the year, soon after lunch, did not help matters the second session. According to wondering what he has done to upset those who sit in judgement the Speedster, Thorpe was

the Test, a 87 mph swinger from desire to bat only once. Pollock that the left-hander hit

across. he'd been seen in recently for half-volley for four, so be it. the third new ball, removed tim after he edged behind.

Nevertheless, it was another

assured display from the that they still do not entirely Since his coming of age in the decided to accelerate. In

Test cricket is about.

Once Mark Ealham, who spent 53 minutes scoring just : unplayable and Hussain must be as only 61 runs were scored in Ramprakash wore his ascetic's merits. If that means sitting tight pair added 55 in 89 minutes behat, rather than the jauntier one for a few overs, or walloping a fore Donald, returning with became the bowlers fourth vic-

After a brief stoppage for rain, Cork followed, well caught England's caution, though Middlesex captain and he was five runs, had become Adam's by Pollock at third man as he perhaps overdone, illustrated a model of calm authority. third victim, Ramprakash slashed uppishly at Donald In trust this potentially awkward West Indies, Ramprakash is nership with Dominic Cork, more a handful than he had done pitch. The way in which Mark unafraid to play the ball on its who struck the ball sweetly, the at any stage of the innings, and

# Nasser Hussain curses his luck after falling to an unplayable ball off the bowling of the South African spinner Paul Adams at Edghaston yesterday Ramprakash with his first bowled by the quickest ball of Middlesex, betrayed England's After all, that is what most calmly back to Adams, Hussain of these things in the cricketing delivery.

#### **TODAY**

Fifteen pages of sport start on page 14

#### ON MONDAY

Special 24-page World Cup supplement

#### THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

No 3630. Saturday 6 June By Spurios

#### **ACROSS**

Repulsive old Duke's accepting a promissory note On good terms, invited into Director-General's home (8) 10 Coast where, perhaps, 'at-mosphere" pervades? (9)

11 Education's to be cut at both ends – no new money? Loud disturbance in house primarily made by lawless

youth (7) 13 A stratagem aircraftsman's about to use for break in line (7)
14 Lines from air composed

about 501 (5)
15 'N' – name one's assigned to translator of Genesis (8)

translator of Genesis (8)

18 Pines (tropical) given little chance of success? (4, 4)

20 Extract for which Earl expected to hold copyright (5)

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25 Idiot parked in drive almost causing deadlock (7)

causing deadlock (7)
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DOWN

Crazy jazz fans embracing beat and actions (7,7) Deposit covering mason-

ry? (5) Dukinea mostly declines to be put in a group (7)
Cake consumed in France
long ago that requires
shortening (6)
Alsatian with the same

randparents as her pastor 16 Bowling strength needed to defeat opposition? (9) Special levers are mostly required for turning things around (8)

19 Flat fare available throughout North Britain (7) 21 Psychiatric Social Worker, one bitten by rampant wildebeest, shows some improvement (7) 22 Keen on absorbing Old

Removing piano from

ndent Newspapers (UK) Limited, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL, and printed at Mirror Colour Print, St Albana Road, Watford Back issues available from Historic Newspapers, 01988 840370. Saturday 6 June 1998

### Sheringham meets Hoddle to discuss nightclub reports

Football

By Mark Pierson and Alan Nixon

THE ENGLAND coach, Glenn Hoddle, had talks with Teddy Sheringham last night following revelations that the striker was seen partying in a nightclub at 6.45am just a week before the start of the World Cup.

Hoddle plans to see the Manchester United man again today before deciding what action, if any, to take. The Football Association's director of public affairs, David Davies said: "Glenn Hoddle has spoken to Teddy Sheringham now that England's World Cup squad is together again. He is establishing all the facts of the situation that was reported in

some of today's newspapers." The Southampton manager, Dave Jones, has made a £5m bid for the Crystal Palace striker Matt Jansen. Jones put in his improved offer yesterday for the prospect who made an explosive start to his Premier League career when he joined Palace. The Saints, armed with the £7.25m from the sale of Kevin Davies to Blackburn, had an initial £3.5m bid rejected last week.

Mark Goldberg has completed his takeover of Crystal Palace and takes over as club chairman with immediate effect. Terry Venables will take over as head coach. The agreement was finally concluded in the early hours of yesterday morning man in charge.

and sees the Bromley-based Goldberg purchase the club for £22m with a further option on the Selhuist Park stadium freehold over a five-year peri-

Alan Thompson signed for Aston Villa in a £4.8m deal last night despite a desperate late hid from Blackburn Rovers. Thompson was on his way to Villa Park yesterday when Rovers cabled their rival offer and he shook hands on a contract without talking to Bolton's hig-spending neighbours.

The Blackburn move was a piece of bizarre timing as they knew the bidding had started on Thompson a couple of weeks ago but made no firm approach until it was too late. Kenny Dalglish hopes to tie

up Wayne Quinn as his latest Newcastle United signing in a £2m deal over the weekend. The Sheffield United prospect, capped by both England Under-21s and at B level, is close to agreeing terms on Tyneside after a flying visit yesterday.

Quium wants to move to the

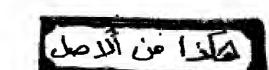
Premier League after the disappointments of two promotion Dalglish was impressed last season with the versatile Quinn, who can play left back or left wing, and beat several clubs to his signature. Sheffield United have agreed to sell ahead of announcing a new manager. The funds will be given to the next

### IMPORTANCE OF BEING IN ERNEST.

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Saturday 6 June 1998

# ack Danger up ahead for trackers?

The Government plans to make indextracker funds central to its new savings plans But as Paul Slade discovers some experts fear that a stock market dominated by trackers could give all investors a bumpy ride

Index-tracking trusts have proved enormously popular with investors, and can point to an impressive track record over the past few years.

Small savers like the simplicity and low charges of unit trusts which - rather than relying on a fund manager's iudgement - merely select stocks to duplicate the performance of their chosen stockmarket index.

Helen Liddell, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, evidently agrees. She has suggested that only Individual Savines Accounts based on an index-tracker trust should qualify for the Government's proposed CAT (Charges/Access/ Terms) mark of approval. Leaks suggest the proposed stakeholder pensioo will be built on index-trackers, too.

However, Roger Carnick, deputy chairman at Perpetual, leading fund management group, says: "If you got two mainstream investments [stakeholder pensions and ISAs] going into the stock market it is clearly going to represent the huge majority of private investment in shares."

But there is a paradox here. Andex-trackers, by definition,

dex they want to track.

into the FT-SE 100.

Savers must not only choose between a tracker fund and an

actively managed one, but also think which stock-market in-

Most trackers use either the FT-SE 100, which lists the

UK's 100 higgest companies, or the All-share, which lists 855

shares - including some much smaller ones. Many fund man-

agers believe that, after a long period of under-performance,

a total of £3.9bn under management. Of this total, £2.4bn

(59.4 per cent) goes into the All-share, and the remainder

a stake in every company. Others take a smaller sample, se-

As the table left shows, the UK's 10 higgest trackers have

Some trackers use full replication, which means they buy

Virgin Direct's Martin Campbell says: "It's important to

have a spread across smaller companies as well, and that's

why we think full replication of the All-share index is what

the Government should set out as a CAT mark standard."

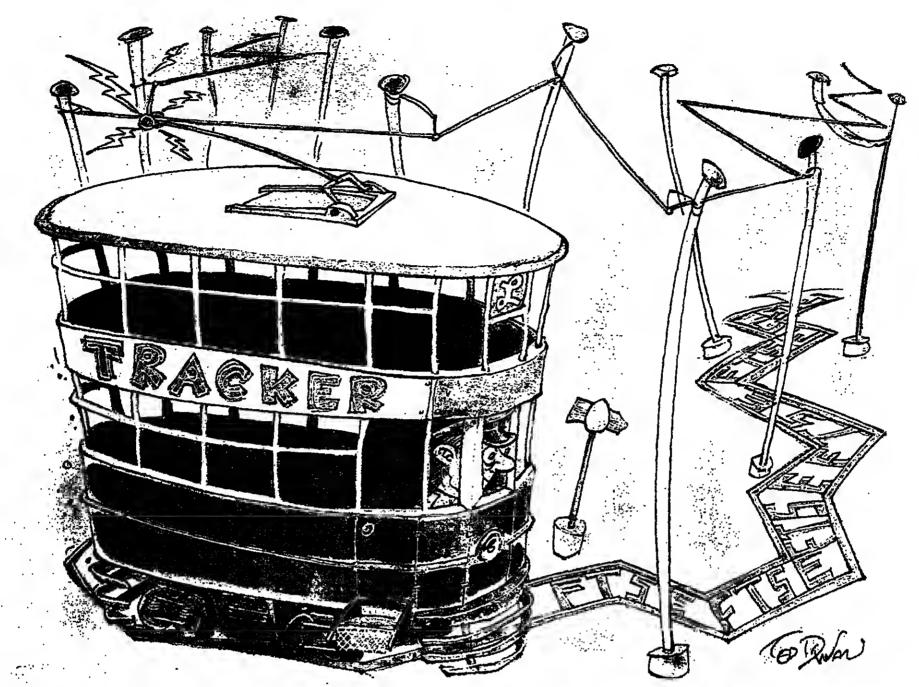
smaller companies now offer the best value.

lected to represent the whole index.

5.2

ICE OF

EST.



aim to duplicate the performance of a much wider market which is driven by actively manif too much money goes into trackers, they will artificially inflate the value of the biggest companies' shares and make the whole market more volatile.

body goes in a tracker. You end up with one judgmental investor left, and he can push the market whichever way he wants, because he's the only one with a view. It's going to put the power of market movement into a diminishing number of WHICH INDEX TO CHOOSE? hands, which could lead to

volatility." Amanda Davidsoo, a partner at Lindon-based independent financial advisers Holden Meehan, believes some of the violent swings in the Dow Jones share index are partly caused by the longer-established use of trackers in the American stock

She says: "There is certainly a link between how much is kept in trackers in the States and the volatility in that market. The US really is quite volatile considering that it's an established market, and that's because you've got too much in trackers there."

Richard Wascoat, director at today. Fidelity Investments European,

Matthew Orr, a partner at adds: "The sheer weight of stockbrokers Killik & Co, says: money ploughing into the index tracks the index and everyone The ultimate extension of the funds pushes up stocks, and out of the window. It can carry on for a while, but oot for-

> Justin Urqubart Stewart, a director at Barclays Stockbrokers, suggests the FT-SE's growth is already being driven partly by increased demand for the limited number of shares available in the biggest companies - a trend which more tracker investment would

He says: "What trackers end up doing is skewing all the money towards a limited supply of stock. That will continue to happen, but it doesn't mean the FT-SE will defy gravity."

But Martin Campbell, Virgin Direct product development manager, whose company has attracted more than £1.5bo into index-tracking funds since its launch in 1995, rejects these fears. He says less than I per cent of money in the FT-SE Allshare index is in tracker funds

Mr Campbell says: "Even if

everybody who takes out an ISA who takes out a stakeholder may well be that it never even has ao influence, let alone becomes any kind of dominating

Even if there is a flood of cash into trackers, Ian Millward of independent PEP advisors Chase de Vere believes the very best actively managed funds will better their performance. He says: "As soon as every-

one goes into trackers, there's no research done, and the market becomes hugely inefficient. It's then that there are tremendous opportunities for active fund managers to outperform. The whole idea that trackers can be the solution is completely flawed before it starts.

"Once all the mooey goes into trackers, all of a sudden active's the place to be."

Mr Campbell has an answer for this, too, "If you put all the active guys in a huge pot, and look at what the net impact is, they are practically tracking the market anyway," be says.

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#### Compelling pensions

The Government is considering compelling all of the country's self employed to pay into a second pension as part of its wholesale review of pension policy, it emerged this week. Responding to a report by the independent Pensions Provision Group (PPG). the DSS said it was looking ar bringing the UK's 3.25 million self-employed into a revamped system of compulsory second

In its report, also published yesterday, the PPG said more and more pensioners would be forced to rely on income support if the Government left the existing pension system unchanged. The report added that it did nor see how pensioners' income could be improved unless the state pension's indexadon to inflation is replaced by income.

#### Lenders calm borrowing fears

More stock-market jitters this week, as the Bank of England raised base rates by a further 0.25 point to 7.5 per cent, However, fears that mortgage interest rates might go up immediately were calmed by most lenders, who said they would not be tak-Ing immediate action, Bradford & Bingley added that while it would be increasing savings rates by a minimum of 0.25 per cent from next week, it guaranteed not to raise home loan rates until August at least.

#### Ethics in retirement

Retirement planning is diffi cult at the best of times, but even more so when ethical investment considerations are uppermost in people's minds. lain Morse looks at the options available to people who want their pension savings to reflect their social consciences. Page 5.

Thought for the day

£561m

£313M

£251m

£150m

£131m

£120m

£111m

15

17

Who's tracking whom - the ten biggest tracker funds

FTSE 100

All-share

All-share

All share

**FTSE 100** 

FTSE 100

FTSE 100

**FTSE 100** 

FTSE 100

L&G UK Index

NU UK Index

Lloyds Bank

Barclavs

Direct Line

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### UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT/THE TESCO PENSION

# Can Tesco's pensions match up to its veg?

Scottish Widows. The UK

Growth fund mimics the performance of the FT AllShare

**Andrew Verity** checks out if the supermarket chain can offer savers that

little bit more

Tesco became this week the latest in a long list of retailers urging its customers to save for a pension at its stores. Like Virgin or Marks & Spencer, it is selling a pension direct to its customers: no sales person, no commission - and no indepeo-

dent advice. So far, Tesco has led the rest of the retail industry in personal finance. Its savings account prompted a copycat at Sainsbury; other supermarkets have imitated its loyalty card scheme; it offers home insurance, loans and a visa card.

But does the pension fit the new Tesco ethos of quality and value for money? Or is it closer to the philosophy of Tesco's founder, Jack Cohen, who famously urged his managers to pile 'em high and sell 'em cheap?

The product: The Tesco Pension, from Tesco Personal Finance Life (currently being tested in 20 stores).

The deal: Save at least £1 a day, or £30 a month, with Tesco. The savings carry the usual tax benefits. A basic-rate taxpayer would see £100 go into the pension for every £77 saved. Some of the interest oo the fund is also tax-free, Payouts are taxed - though up to 25 per cent of a fund can be paid out as a taxfree lump sum. Benefits can be

drawn from the age of 50. A Tesco investor can pick from five funds run by Tesco's partner in personal finance,

Index. The Balanced Growth Fund mimics the investments of other balanced growth funds; it invests roughly 70 per cent in UK shares and the rest in gilts and overseas stocks. The International Growth Fund tracks the overseas investments of the average pension fund manager. The Freed Interest Fund follows the performance of fixed-interest stocks such as government bonds. The Cash Fund invests in short-term securities - such as Treasury bills. Plus points: The charges look low and the product is simple. Unlike its rival pension at Marks & Spencer, there is no

monthly plan fee. The mini-

mum saving of £30 a mooth is

lower than rivals such as Eagle

General's direct pension.

cent payment upfront and an ongoing annual fee of 1 per cent of the fund. Tesco has eliminated penal-

ties for savers who are forced to stop contributing in the early years. This is a blessing in comparisoo to most personal pensions, where savers get poor value if they stop early. That creates a particularly nasty dilemma if a policyholder is offered a good employer's scheme: policyholders are damned if they do and damned if they don't. But there are many other products that are also penalty-free.

The choice of investments is in stark contrast to rivals such as Virgin: Mr Branson only offers a tracker or a corporate bond fund.

Drawbacks and risks: You can get a cheaper product at an up-Star, Virgin or even Legal & market rival. Flemings, the as-

All Tesco charges is a 4 per set manager and investment bank, also offers a pension with oo monthly plan fee and no penalties. But its annual fee is half of Tesco's -0.5 per cent of the fund. One per cent may not sound

much. But a saver who put £100 a month in the plan over 25 years (assuming interest of 9 per ceot a year) would in the eod be paying more than £850 a year through this 1 per cent. With Flemings the fee would be balf as much. This matters little if Scottish

fidows can produce amazing investment performance for Tesco savers. But while it has a reasonable investment record. savers cannot know it will surpass its rivals over such a loog period of time. Verdict: Like Tesco fruit & veg.

it's good but not the best, cheap but not the cheapest. Marks out of five: Three.

You'd be better off with an IFA

THI



NIC CICUTTI

### Link pensions to wages not prices

Back in March last year, tween rich and poor penshortly before the general election, the Conservative government tried to stave off defeat by announcing that future state pension provision should be privatised.

Not surprisingly, the voting public was not wholly enthused by this idea, which substituted a small hut guaranteed retirement income with what would eventually become little more than an investment-determined lottery.

Labour, meanwhile, countered the Conservatives' proposals with its own Big Idea: the stakeholder pension. Under its sketchy proposals, a new layer of pension provision would be set up to include those who are not members of an employers' scheme. This system could be privately run and/or managed by community groups, trade unions or

whomever, Labour believes. That's all very nice and will no doubt lead to more calls among pensions experts for contributions to such schemes to be made compulsory. After all, the litary goes, the state simply cannot afford to pay for everyone's pensions in retirement.

I wonder what they will say to the publication of a report from the Pension Provision Group (PPG), set up by the Government to advise on how best to fund for retirement. The PPG report is not some lefty-liberal exercise: its working group of experts was chaired by Tom Ross, chief executive of Scottish Widows, a leading insurance company.

Yet the report argues that there is a growing division be- from advisers. Happy reading.

sioners and that to link the

basic state pension to infla-

tion and not wages will fur-

ther widen this differential.

It follows that if this is so,

compulsory contributions be-

come marginal as a concept:

after all, how are you going

to be able to screw money out

of people towards their pen-

sion if they harely earn

enough to pay the rent?

Moreover, what use are

"matching contributions" as

a means of incentivising re-

tirement saving, when the

most people have to set aside

recognises, there is no es-

caping a basic fact. No mat-

ter how good occupational

pensions are for many, or how

cheap personal pensions are

becoming, or how wonderful

stakeholder pensions will be,

the basic pension will have to

be upgraded. And to keep

pensioners from destitution,

there will have to be some

links to wages not prices. Is

anyone out there listening?

Anyone watching the behav-

iour of the FTSE 100 share

index could be forgiven for

feeling confused. Drops of

more than 100 points, fol-

lowed by minor recoveries,

are now commonplace. It is

too soon to know if this is the

start of a so-called stock

market "correction". But for

those who are becoming jit-

tery, we are launching a mini-

series, starting this week on

page 7. on how to develop a

"defensive" investment strat-

egy. Next week, collective

investments and some tips

Ultimately, as this report

is a few pounds a month?

#### Age: 52 Occupation: self-employed audio producer

Name: Jane Talbot

The problem: Jane is considering three issues that she feels regulre her to change her approach to life: her self-employed income is drying up; she has Inherited a flat worth about £170,000; and, finally, given her age, she feels it is time to think about retirement planning. She rents the flat our. Is this sensible? If not, what?

FINANCIAL MAKEOVER

The solution: Continuing to rent the flat does not make sense. the returns are too low. If she sold it and invested the money in other collective funds, she could achieve a higher income.

Jane has, in her own words, "pottered along in a slightly hand to mouth way for many years". But she feels the need for a more structured approach now that her career is beginning to wind down. While in the 12 months to April she earned about £14,000 in freelance earnings, Jane is projecting only about a third of that for the current tax year.

Her annual income is boosted by £2,000 from a parental trust, plus about £12,000 rent from a second property, which she inherited three years ago and is worth about £180,000. She has, however, spent £21,000 to extend its lease, plus a further £20,000 on renovation work.

Jane holds shares in about seven companies, plus Treasury stock, worth £28,000 at the last count. She has £6,000 in cash in five bank and building society accounts; £2,700 in National Savings certificates; a follow-on Tessa worth £7,600; and a Pep, first taken out in 1992, now worth about £6,000.

In addition to her inherited flat, on which she pays more than £4,000 in maintenance charges, insurance and repairs, Jane also owns another house, worth £100,000, on which she bas a £26,000 endowment with five years to run and on which her annual outgoings are £3,000

Now separated, Jane has no financial obligations and her health is good. In addition to normal hills, her only other major expense is some £384 a month spent on a variety of insurance policies. Were she to retire, her pension entitlement after 17 years' service at the BBC would be about £4,000.

As she sees it, the issues she wants to consider revolve around long-term planning for retirement - if she can continue to find work. If not, there's a need for more immediate

The adviser: John Edwards, a consultant with independent financial advisers, Berry Birch & Noble, De Salls Court, De Salls, Drive, Hampton Lovett, Droitwich, Worcestershire (01905 775333).

The advice: Jane expects a sharp decline in her income. However, she says that she definitely wants to continue working and will take some other job if her present source of earnings dries up or disap-

Her present income from the second property, plus the parental trust, is nearly £15,000. However this is subject to annual outgoings of over £4,250 on the flat and is liable to income tax which will vary, depending on the amount of earned income. If she does earn £5,000, her total net income would be around £13,250, after tax.

If so, she would just about have sufficient income to cover her outgoings, disregarding the returns from her shares, cash deposits and the possibility of taking the BBC pension early if push came to shove.

So the main concern is planning for "old age" and generating savings for great nieces and nephews, since she is keen to return some of the money inherited back into the family.

It is worth noting at this stage that apart from the BBC pension. Jane will be eligible for the state pension when she reaches 60. And, in five year's



When it's time to stop living hand to mouth

time, the mortgage will be paid off and hopefully she will receive a lump-sum payment from the endowment policy, which she should keep paying into.

The Tessa, which she has just taken out, is fine: so are the National Savings certificates and the amount of cash held in the hanks and building societies seems just about right.

There is a question mark, however, over the shares and Treasury stock. I would recommend cashing in at least £9,000 to finance the purchase of a general and single company Personal Equity Plan (Pep) in the last year these are available.

In addition, there is also a strong case for taking at least some of the profits made in recent years from stock market investments just in case there is a setback from the present high levels. It is never wrong to take a profit.

Personally. I would go for one of the protected Peps which provide a minimum return of original capital while the potential benefits are linked to stock market indices. It enables you to invest in the stock market with virtually no risk. The downside is that the money is er return on the £180,000 - say

locked away for a lengthy period, but this fits in with plan-

ning for Jane's "old age". We now reach the really crucial point. Is property a suitable investment for Jane? Her second property, a flat, is currently let for a gross return of £12.960. However, after paying out the maintenance charge, insurance and annual repairs, the gross return is reduced to £8,710. That is a pretty mouldy return of 4.8 per cent gross on the estimated value of £180,000,

and it is even worse once in-

come tax is taken into account.

Jane could earn a much high-

Flat out: for Jane Talbot to continue renting out her apartment does not make sense - the returns are too low

**Photograph**:

7 per cent net - by investing the money elsewhere.

House prices are certainly moving up at present from the disastrously low levels plumbed a few years ago. However, I am far from certain that this is suitable for Jane's circumstances. She already has £100,000 "invested" in her own residence, and with the second property she has the bulk of her eggs in one type of investment, which is distinctly inflexible and is best for providing capital gains rather than income. She is also being pressured to participate in buying the freehold to the whole building, which could be

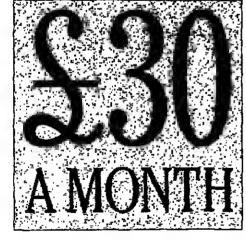
Selling the flat now, or later, would involve paying capital gains tax. Nevertheless, with proper timing to ensure that she takes advantage of her capital gains tax exemption of £6,800. and allowing for indexation relief and the money spent on the property, the capital gains tax hill should not be excessive.

The tax hill would quickly be offset by the increased returns available from other, more flexible investments, such as unit trusts or investment bonds. Seiling the flat would be a pretty radical step, but I think is an important key to providing more income for herold age with some surplus to pass on to the family.

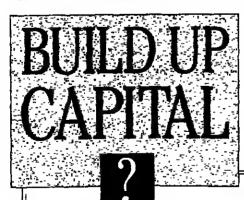
Finally, I would question thy Jane is paying out more than £380 in life insurance policies, as she has no dependents. I would have thought the money could be better spent on paying contributions for long-term care insurance. This would provide further protection for Jane in her "old age" and could avoid her estate heing devastated by nursing-home bills.



JUST



THE WAY TO



You oeedn't be a financial wizard to know that the slock market is one of the best ways of achieving capital growth to keep savings ahead of ioflatioo over the years. And you needo'i be a milliooaire lo lake advaotage of it. But smart investors know it's helpful to have professionals working on

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What should you do if you've built up funds in an occupational pension scheme but then leave the company? Rachel Fixsen collects independent advice on whether to place the money in a new scheme... or to leave the benefits exactly where they are

## So, jobs aren't for life. But can I take my pension with me?

cupational schemes would surely be Aston Martins. The retirement benefits and insurance offered are hard to beat, though not everyone is lucky enough to have one. Your boss often contributes to the occupational scheme and the benefits offered would usually be out of reach in the private pensions market.

But jobs are now rarely for life, and most of us will switch employer at least once before retirement. When this happens, just what should you do with the pension you have

Don't panic, says Ian Williams, pensions specialist at iadependent Marshall Williams & Co in Horsham. Even if you are fired or end on really bad terms with your old boss, your accrued pension is in no danger.

"Some people don't trust their old employer, and don't seem to appreciate that the benefits are held in trust. Provided the scheme is insured, there's no need to worry," Mr Williams says.

If your new job comes with the opportunity to join a good workplace pension scheme, don't hesitate to join it, he says. But sooner or later, you will be faced with a decision on what to do with your old pension. Should you transfer it to the new scheme or leave it where it is, taking deferred benefits at retirement in addition to those from any subsequent scheme?

The only real way to know this is to seek some advice." says Philip Telford of the Consumers' Association. According to CA research, you have a better chance of getting good advice from an inde-

one tied to a particular financial services provider, he says. And advice given on a fee basis, rather than commission, is likely to be the most unhiased and objective, he says.

Many financial advisers

got their fingers hadly burned between 1988 and 1994 when they advised clients to leave occupational pension schemes, or not to join in the first place, and sign up for personal plans instead. The commission paid to advisers by the personal pension providers often proved hard to resist. Thousands of people lost out

and the slow process of compensating them is now Regulations have since been tightened. From March next year, only financial advisers with a special qualification will be allowed to

advise on pensions transfers. There are two types of occupational pension scheme. Final salary is the most common. Your pension benefits are based on a proportion of your earnings at or near retirement, and also depends how long you have been in the

The other main type is money purchase, where contributions from you and your employer are invested and, when you retire, the fund that has built up is used to provide pension benefits. How much you end up with depends on the performance of the investments.

A few schemes are hybrids, having elements of both types. "If it's a money purchase scheme, there's no real problem." says Andrew Smith. pensions consultant at IFAs Towry Law in Windsor. "The

whether there is a penalty for transferring," he says. If there's a difference between the current value and the transfer value, then there is a penalty. However, if you are transferring to a personal pension, it is also important to compare the tax-free lump sum at retirement and death benefits, he says, plus the initial charge and the annual management fee of the private

pension scheme. There is not usually much point in transferring benefits from one final salary scheme to another of the same type. unless it's purely for convenience, says Mr Smith. If you leave the deferred pension where it is, it will increase by the rate of inflation, up to a maximum of 5 per cent a year, until you retire.

There is one exception. where you have left money in a final salary scheme, amounting to several year's service and you are now in a job where your likely final earnings will be much higher. If so, it makes sense to place the years from your old scheme, where they would be frozen at your old, lower salary, into the new pension scheme.

But you might want to transfer from a final salary scheme to a money purchase scheme if you thought that by investing the accrued pension you could improve benefits at retirement Before deciding whether

to transfer from a final salary scheme to a money purchase plan, an adviser will do a "transfer analysis". All the henefits your final salary pension scheme offers you have a capital value, including, a spouse's pension, life

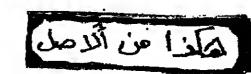
main thing to look out for is assurance. a tax-free lump sum at retirement and price

indexation. A transfer analysis will determine what level of investment growth per year you would need in order to be in exactly the same position at retirement as if you had stayed in the original job. This usually comes out at around 10 or 11 per cent, and whether or not you then opt to transfer depends on your attitude to risk.

Transfer values from final salary schemes fluctuate according to the interest rate cyde and this is another thing to consider before opting to transfer. When long-term interest rates are high, then transfer values are low, and vice versa. At the moment, transfer values are high. But in the late Eighties and early Nineties, they were low. "Anyone who took a transfer then should really review that," says Mr Williams. If they were badly advised to transfer, then compensation may he payahle.

If you move to a new job where there is no workplace pension in place, or if you become self-employed, you will probably have to take out a personal pension plan. Things to consider are the charges and commissions involved," says Des Hamilton, technical director at the Occupational Pensions Advisory Service (OPAS). Again, you may need specialist advice on

Occupational Pensions Advisory Service, 0171-233 8080: Marshall Williams & Co, 01403 210534: Consumers Association, 0171-830 6000; Towny Law, 01753 868244.



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# The emperor's old clothes

Collect to Invest: Chinese Imperial robes have class and mysticism... and are now coveted as works of art. By John Windsor

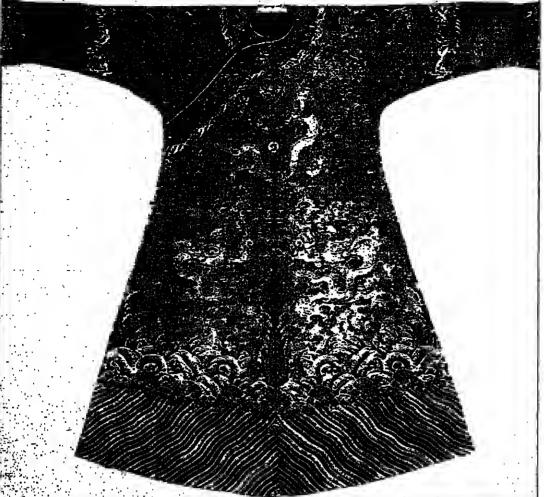
Ten years ago, few collectors looked twice at Chinese mandarins' brightly coloured surcoats with their finely woveo dragons and birds. The Chinese porcelain and jade markets were long-established - but costume? It looked like a hangover from Gilbert and Sullivan. But a yellow robe worn by an Emperor of the Qing dynasty (17th to 19th centuries) bought for £15,000 a decade ago would be worth over £40,000 today.

The market will never be as broad as the market for paintinds, but, compared with such conventional artworks. Chinese court robes are undervalued and prices continue to rise. Demand is being fuelled not only by the rehabilitation of textiles as collectables and by the new buying power of the Chinese but also by the West's discovery of Peng Shui, the semi-mystical ancient Chinese system of architectural and interior design.

Robes of the appropriate colour, strategically bung in plastic cases in Western interiial court in Beijing, but who ois deficient in a vital element of two, can, it is said, correct imbalances. Yellow, the Emperors' colour, will bump up the earth element (Chinese Emperors were expected to be earthy); red brings the quality of fire; blue and green of wood.

The robes of court mandarins were strictly colour-coded according to rank. Orange, brown, green and blue - the lower the rank, the more they deviated from Imperial yellow. Today, prices for robes are ranked the same way. But that is not the booo to investors that risen up to five times in value it might seem - quality and condition are paramount.

You may whoop at the sight of a dark blue satio formal robe with nine dragons - signifying that it is from the imper- sold by dealers for £2,000ial court a but fail to note that £3,000," would 10" years ago it is cheap brocade, woven by a have commanded only £350. flying shuttle. It might have been . If you have an eye for textile



a complex tapestry. A brocaded 18th-ceotury formal court robe is estimated to fetch £500-£800 at Christie's South Kensingtoo's bi-annual sale of Oriental Costume and Textiles oo 10 June. South Keo launched dedicated Oriental costume sales only a year ago in response to rising demand from oew collectors.

worn by an 18th-century provin-

cial rice farmer, who had passed

examinations in order to be-

come an official at the Imper-

could oot afford oeedle and

thread embroidery to produce

Lower range dragoo robes such as the 18th-century brocade in Christie's sale have over the past decade, compared with middle and higher range garments that have risen up to 10 times. Finer quality embroidered robes, now being

Saving has never been simpler

few people have without the value. If people want to invest help of a knowledgable auctiooeer or dealer - you could pick garments in this range out of Christic's South Ken sale at hut rise and it is the higher qualestimates ranging from £800-£1,200 to £1,500-£1,800.

And at Olympia, 11-15 June, the first fair devoted to textiles. with 50 dealers from Europe, Asia and America, will give you a chance to pick the brains of dealers such as Linda Wrigglesworth, who established the Londoo market in Imperial costume back in 1978, when she was 22. She and her researcher/ historian Gary Dickinson co-authored the definitive Imperial Wardrobe, published by Bamboo in 1991, now an out-of-print col-

lectors' item. Ms Wrigglesworth is refreshingly forthright about investing in Imperial robes: "You might pay two or three times the auctioo price buying from me, but I will take back anything you buy from me and sell it for you. It's like consulting a lawyer you are paying for expertise ac- but crucially damaging alter-

quired after years of study. "We can do the legwork for company executives and help them to accumulate a fantastic

quality and condition - which collection that will appreciate in dresses and hath robes. As an example of huy-back in my field. I want to make sure she instances the Caoadian they're investing wisely. I've

not seen this market do anything

ity, rarer robes that are easiest

starting price of £5,000-£6,000

per garmeot. It's that magic

£5,000 again - the price at

which so many other collec-

tables reach an investment take-

off point on the grounds of

For that money, she says, you

would oot get an Imperial robe

(worn by the Emperor or his

family) but you might just afford

a finely woveo coort formal

dress, and certainly a fine in-

she says. "When I say excellent,

I mean perfect. If there are

sweat marks under the armpits,

splits on the shoulder line, even

Ms Wrigglesworth is also an

ations made by young flappers

missioparies ioto cocktail

a single stain, I woo't buy".

"Cooditioo is everything,"

She recommends a safe

to re-sell."

sheer quality.

formal one.

couple who, in 1982, bought from her informal court robes at £500-£600 and formal robes for £1,000. She has re-sold them oo commissioo - the informals for £2,000-£3,000 and the formals for £10,000. Meanwhile, Mr Dickinson.

who has schooled himself in Feng Shui, has hung a Chinese yellow tiger banner in his home, as much for protection as investment. His persooal constitutioo is earth, be says, and, according to Feng Shui, the main living room in a home should be earth, too. But his living room faces south-east, giving it the quality of wood. Wood exhausts earth. But the yellow of his banner is an earth colour. And tigers are associated with the West and with metal -

The Hali International Antique Carpet and Textile Art Fair, expert at spotting the subtle Olympia, 11-15 June, entry £5 (0171-710 2135). Christie's South Kensington auction of in the Twenties, who turned Oriental Costumes and Textiles, court robes brought back by Wednesday 10 June, 2pm. Enquiries: 0171-3213212.

which destroys wood.

#### LOOSE CHANGE

Saga, the specialist services provider for the over-50s, has teamed up with Greeo Flag to provide Comprehensive Breakdown Cover for £65 a year, including free European cover, or Roadside Assistance for £35 a year, which it claims is cheaper than the standard price charged. Call 0800 800662.

TSB has launched a six-year Guaranteed Stock Market Bond, with growth linked to the FT-SE 100 share index. The bond's final returns will be linked to the average of the final 12 months index performance. If the market falls,

investors receive their original investment back. Bonuses of up to 0.5 per cent on the sum invested are payable for early applications. Call 0500 758444.

GRIP, the underwriting agency

specialising in off-beat insurance. is launching an income protection policy which includes cover ainst the risk of Aids or HIV to gay men and women. Benefits up to a maximum of £2,500 a month are payable for up to 12 months after a waiting period of 30, 60, or 90 days. Premiums start at £3.25 per £100 of monthly benefit. No medical examination is needed, Call 0171 2642012.

Abbey National is launching a range of packages for overseas travellers, including fee-free buybacks of currency ootes and travellers' cheques; no commission on travel mooey purchases if bought with travel insurance; plus a free prize draw to win £2,000 a year for five years. Call any branch for

Leeds & Holbeck is increasing to 8.05 rates oo its follow-on Tessa, for people whose existing Tessa has already matured. The rate applies to investments hetween £1 and £9,999. Call 0500 225777.

#### INTERNET INVESTOR



19th-century,

dragon robe

orange silk,

embroidered

with coloured

silk floss and

gold-wrapped

thread according

to experts,

condition is

everything

Chinese

**Imperial** 

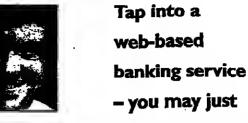
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#### ROBIN AMLOT

So have you heard the one about the virgin and the banker? It is oot quite as exciting as it might sound but it is still a significant development in terms of Internet access. A majority of the people who read this paper will have access to a computer either at bome or at work. However, most of you are still likely oot to he connected to the world wide web. You may be put off by scare stories or you may merely be utterly confused by the pletbora of loternet service providers (ISPs). A sotution is oow at hand with the offer of free unlimited Internet access for a year.

Most ISPs will offer you some free access time as a come-on to take their service. What you actually get wheo you sign up may vary from an e-mait address, through a variety of packaged news and entertainment services, to your own weh space for your own home page together with help putting it together. What you pay will also vary, but standard practice is a moothly charge oo top of which there may be extra costs, depending oo how much use you make of the Internet connectioo. Do remember you are also racking up the telephooe hill at the same time hut it will only he at

local-call rates. Which brings me back to



#### you may just find your money goes further

the virgin I mentioned. Virgin Net to be specific, which is the ISP established in November 1996 by the ubiquitous Richard Branson. Curreothy Virgin Net has 115,000 subscribers and claims to be the fastest growing UK Internet provider. It offers its customers all the things you would expect from an ISP, including e-mail facilities, a reasonable chunk of web space for your own use, community areas offering eveots and competitions, and content pitched towards news and eotertainmeot. And that hrings me to the

bank. This week Virgin Net teamed up with US banking giant Citibank in a deal that offers all oew customers opening a Citibank current account free Internet access. The offer is worth a total of £143.88. You may feel this is not by itself a compelling reasoo to take out an account with Citibank. Indeed, by oo means everybody will qualify to do so. You need to be earning at least £30,000 a year before they will consid-

However, assuming you do qualify for a Citibank accouot, it does have several attractive features. These include competitive rates of interest oo curreot account balances (a balance of £2,000 would pay 4.75 per ceot

gross), free access to 18,000 ATMs across the country, a £500 "no bounce" zone if you accidentally overdraw, and free, real-time PC Banking.

In fact, Citibank has been offering a PC Banking service in the UK for three years. This is not a web-based service but relies on the bank's own dialup facility. The ISP offer announced this week comes ahead of the planned launch of Citibank's Internet banking service scheduled later in the year. However, the offer does demonstrate the seriousness of the US banking group's intent in establishing a major "virtual" presence in UK personal banking.

Thanks to the technology that coahles PC- and Webhased hanking services, Citibank does oot oced to invest in a branch network to gain market share. Peter Wilkes, marketing director of Citibank International plc comments: "Electronic transactions can reduce hanking transaction costs to a fraction of their traditional level. Without the cost of a UK branch network to support, Citibank is able to pass these savings on to customers who want to take advantage of direct access channels."

If you want to find oot more about the free Internet access offer, you can call the freephooe oumber 0800 008100 and you can check out the details of Citibank's PC banking system on the bank's web site. It also has an enlightening calculator which shows just how much better off you would he with a Citibank current account compared with accounts offered by First Direct, Barclays and NatWest,

Citibank: www.citibank.co.uk

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#### BRIAN **TORA**

### Keep your powder dry

up of an investment club. Properly constituted and run, profitable, and fun. This group, based originally around my local rugby club, bas been all three for its members.

this week. Of course, the point of an investment club is that denly go oegative on Siebe. members make up their own Rather, it seems to be ahead minds, but even so I was quite of the game just at present. surprised to see how independent they had become in the year 2010 less than 10 per they had an experienced stock-

Two thirds of the club's assets are now in cash and they decided to keep it that way at Wednesday's meeting.

Although not every investment they have made has turned out well, by being disoptions before taking action, the club has done well. Their number of holdings a few bad so far, but the question is what to do with the money.

There are pleoty of shares they would like to buy but not at these prices. One of the companies discussed as represcoting the type of quality they would like to include in their portfolio was Siebe.

Siebe was the source of some embarrassment to me recently. A good relative performer this year, I tipped the stock in a television interview. The advice was giveo in the knowledge that the results were imminent, but Siebe was not usually in the business of disappointing shareholders. Nor did it, in terms of a 15 per ceot rise in pre-tax profits, but the more cautious than usual nature of the statement accompanying the results was enough to wipe 10 per cent off the shares in a day. The company believes that commercial

A little over three years ago I - life will become tougher in the was instrumental in the setting months ahead, so it is accelerating a restructuring programme aimed at diverting these can be educational, more of its manufacturing capacity to low-wage countries. Joh losses in North America and Europe will follow as the company battens down the I attended the club's AGM hatches, but that oews did oot strike me as a reason to sud-

Economists believe that by

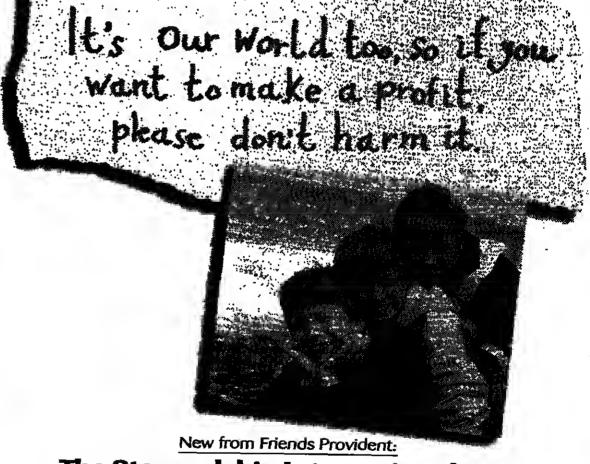
their decisions, even though cent of America's gross national product will be reprebroker to turn to for guidance. sented by manufacturing industry. It will be the service sectors that dominate not only oo the other side of the pond, but in all developed countries. A revolution is taking place no less dramatic than that which ushered in indusciplined and dehating fully the trialisation to replace agriculture as the dominant ecocomic force in the middle decision to cash in a large of the last century. Yet even as this manufacturing capacity weeks ago does not look too transfers to the lesser developed countries, emerging markets remain in disarray. Currencies, stocks and boods in South-East Asia, Eastern Europe, Africa and Latin America remain under pres-

sure. Hardly cheering news. One interesting snippet is that cootainer rates seem set to rise. Apparently, such is the surge of exported goods from the Far East that containers and the ships to carry them are insufficient. We all knew it was likely, but most people have been happy to ignore the likely knock-on effect of cheap Asian imports. The effect on profitability over here could be quite severe. This investment club may have got it right. For now, keeping your powder dry seems the prudent option.

Brian Tora is chairman of the investment strategy committee at Greig Middleton.

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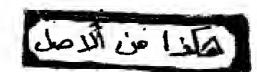
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# Don't overlook a market when it's down



#### THE JONATHAN **DAVIS** COLUMN

"It hays to look at investing in areas that other investors are shunning, because all markets have their day eventually, and those currently in vogue may not last

to go with conventional opinion when deciding where to invest your money. Markets are carried forward by the weight of current opinion and liquidity where the most cash is being invested at the moment - is a powerful and often dominant force. In he longer term, however, which is where most of us really have our money, the effect is the other way round.

Now it usually pays to put your money in places which conventional opinion is currently shuining - and which by definition therefore tend to be out of avour and undervalued. portunities). Over-time all markets have

In the short term, it often pays their day, and if you have the time to be patient the chances are that today's dogs will become tomorrow's stars.

Of course there is nothing original about such thoughts. Most of the great fortunes in investment have been made by contrarians of one sort or another (which is why incidentally the whole notion of regulated investment advice is something of a nonsense, since the one sure effect of regulation is to push advisers in the direction of conventional solutions, which guarantee that you miss out on the best current investment op-

One of the classic examples

in recent history was Sir John prompted by reading an inter-Templeton, who made a huge fortune by buying shares in Japan in the 1960s, when the country was known in the West only as a manufacturer of cheap and rather shoddy cars and consumer goods. He recalls how at the time you could buy companies such as Nissan and Toyota on a price/earnings multiple of four, Nobody else wanted to know about Japan in those days. The next thing you know the Tokyo market has embarked on one of the greatest bull runs of all time. By the end of the 1980s, it was the place where everyone who was anyone had to have their money. Every stockbroker and investment bankers worth his salt was

opening an office in Japan. Result: the market crashed and lots of people who only climbed on the handwagon when it was everybody's choice lost a fortune. There could he no better example of the timeless truth that for the best results it often pays to buy markets that nobody else wants to know about, and avoid those which are suddenly all the talk of the town. Do such opportunities exist today? Of course they do, though by definition few people will be talking about

These thoughts were of prohabilities, the long-run

esting presentation by Bruce Johnstone, one of Fidelity's top fund managers, at a recent conference in London. He asked his audience to take a look at the chart I show on this page and compare the current valuations of two markets (which he did not name until he had finished). Which of the two markets looks the better bet for anyone interested in securing above average investment performance over time? Is it country X, where shares

have rarely if ever been so expensive relative to bonds and profit margins are near an alltime high? Or country Y, where they have never been so cheap in the past 30 years relative to bonds and profit margins are near an all-time low? Which of the two stock markets do you think is most likely to go up and which is most likely to go down - bearing in mind that market capitalisation in the first country has already risen five-fold in the past eight years, while that in the second has fallen even

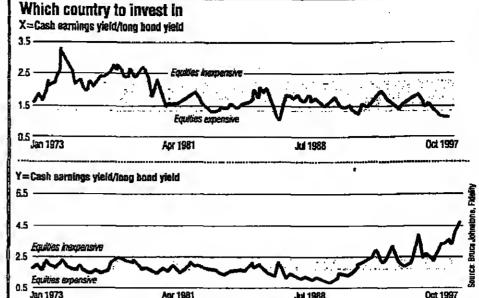
Well, no doubt by now you have guessed the way this argument is going. On a balance

faster over the same period?

Neither market, incidentally,

is in an obscure country which

you have never heard of.



clear idea how and when it will

far without success. But the

question for long-term in-

vestors to resolve is not

real - that is after all what has

odds must favour the second market achieving the better results. Which two countries are we talking about?

Well, the answer - as you may also have guessed - is that country X, the first country in the chart, is the US; and country Y, the second country, is Sir John Templeton's old friend. Japan. So much bad news is coming out of Asia at the moment that it is easy to lose sight of the longer-term perspective on market valuations.

portunity - but whether or not there is a real and profound economic crisis developing in you think that the Japanese economy will one day sort itthe Asian region. It will clearly be some time before the criself out and recover. sis is resolved. No expert that

If you think that the answer I have talked to has any real or to that question is yes, then it is certainly worth considering be resolved. The Japanese have whether you might profit from aiready made several attempts having some of your equity to kick-start their economy, so funds invested in that region.

After all, as Mr Johnstone are coming out of Japan today whether or not the crisis is for are no worse - and in some ways still better - than those you

cconomy back in 1982, which was the year when the great US bull market took off in earnest. To take just one or two examples, the number of mutual funds was down by 80 per cent, unemployment was at its highest since the Depression, and consumer confidence was at a record low.

Interest rates were still off the scale. And so on. Compare that with today, when 85 per cent of US investors are reported to expect shares to return 20 per cent a year for the next 10 years and unemployment has rarely, if ever, been

I cannot tell you whether the Japanese market bas yet reached the bottom of its current trading slump, or whether the American hull market has quite yet peaked. Nobody can call the turns with that amount of precision. But I would be astonished in 15 years to find that the disparity in valuation between the US and Tokyo markets was still as great as it is

Push me into an unregulated opinion, and I might also say I would not be surprised to find that the Tokyo market was more highly rated than Wall Street. What is not in doubt is that the markets will turn, just None of this is to deny that helped to create the buying op- were reading about the US as surely as night follows day.

MONEY & ETHICS

## So you want a pension with a conscience?

In the latest in his series on ethical investments, lain Morse looks at ways of saving for your retirement without compromising yourself or your fund

A survey commissioned by the Ethical Investment Re- one of two categories: either search Service (Eiris), the eth- 'defined benefit', or 'money icil research group, shows purchase', depending on the that 73 per cent of us would basis used for calculating penlike to see our pension funds sion at retirement. rus on ethical lines, while alwiththe practicalities of making pension provision.

These start for anyone ofpanypension scheme; the type where the employer makes contributions on behalf of each member, which can then be topped up by the employee.

JOL

Schemes of this type fall into

Defined benefit schemes most a third would accept pay a pension based on multisome reduced financial are aplying sears of service in the turns as a comsequence. De- scheme by an accrual rate or spite this, there are some fraction, which determines ethical investors when dealing salary at retirement. Money pension schemes put contriretirement, member's pensions depend on the fund's perfor-

> In both cases, a pension fund is created for the benefit

of all its members. To qualify for Inland Revenue tax relief, these funds must be set up in legal trusts. Individual memhers are beneficiaries of the trust, with their interests looked after by a board of trustees who appoint hut remain separate from investment managers running the

According to Lee Coates of the Ethical Investors Group: "Only a tiny fraction of these pension funds are managed according to clear-cut ethical criteria. The main reason for this is that trustees must act on behalf of all members, and have fiduciary obligations to tough choices to be faced by pension as a percentage of ensure that they give the best returns available.

individuals together into a building pension provision in choose not to join, or to con- often, trustees have a prejudice fered membership of a com- common investment pot. At part from investments that tract out of it. But employers against the Idea of applying they would not otherwise bny on ethical grounds. Funds are likely to include a high exposure to FTSE 100 companies, the hundred largest traded

**FIXED UNTIL** 

on the London Stock Exchange. These shares account for some 70 per cent of daily trading values on the stock exchange. However, Eiris claims that fewer than 40 of the 100 are acceptable on ethical grounds. Pension funds may also

need to bold substantial cash reserves and to buy fixed-inlerest securities such as gilts, which are issued by the Treasury. Clare Brook, ethical fund manager with NPI, an ethical fund provider, says: "We have little choice about putting cash market or buying gifts, because there are so few ethically acceptable alternatives."

Of course, employees un-In practice, this means that happy with the investment polhutions made on behalf of many scheme members are icy of a pension scheme can are under no obligation to make the same contributions to any alternative as they offer with membership of the sponsored scheme.

"This can make sticking by your principles very expensive," warns Mr Coates. "As an alteroative, you can challenge the scheme trustees about bow they run the fund. But they are only obliged to answer objections of a financial nature, not those raised solely on moral

"The key to a change of policy often lies with the fund managers not the trustees," thinks Mr Coates. "If the managers don't offer an ethical option, hut are keeping the trustee's happy, members will be fobbed into the international money, off. But if the fund managers already offer an ethical option, switching to it is easy." Clare Brook agrees, argu-

converting to ethicality, and investing into the future. All too ethics to investment." Meanwhile, NPI has

launched a Social Index, measuring the performance of 150 UK stocks, and inlended to

replicate movements in the ready offer an ethical unit FTSE All-Share Index. Com- trust, and reproduce its asset alpanies are selected for heing socially responsible, and Ms Brook hopes that "the Index should show irustees that a pension fund can be run without necessary conflict between the application of ethical standards and their fiduciary

Investing into ethical funds through retail pension products is much easier and a full range of these products are now available, such as pension topups, also known as "free-standing additional voluntary contributions (FSAVC), exec- um-sized companies. Longutive pension plans, and pension trustee plans. Anyone ing: "Pension funds should be opting out of Serps, the state's earnings-related scheme, can be expected to show n free 28-page Guide to Ethical choose to have their higher Na- greater volatility than non- Funnices' by Nic Cicutti, the tional Insurance contributions ethical funds. paid into a "contracted-out" personal pension, and invest

> The important issue here is which type of ethical fund you choose. Most providers al-

into an ethical fund.

location in their pension fund. The largest of these, Friends Provident's Stewardship Pension Fund, bas achieved average annual growth of 13.86 per cent over the last five years. But some smaller funds, including Clerical Medical's Evergreen and Abbey Life's 'Ethical',

have shown lacklustre returns. Few of us want to take risks with our pension provision, and all of these funds can be criticised on the grounds that they have too much exposure to shares in small- and mediterm fund growth may or may not equal that of non-ethical funds, but in the short-run, they The Independent has produced

Providers like NPI and Skandia have responded to this criticism by offering ethical "managed" funds that hold far ue in large company shares, fill in the coupon on page 4.

PREMIER SAVINGS PLAN

cash deposits, gilts and a variety of fixed-interest securities. NPI's Global Care Man-

aged fund holds the same asset ratios as non-ethical managed funds, with up to 45 per cent in FTSE 100 sbares. Since launch in June 1996, this fund has performed strongly, coming seventh in a sector of 278 non-ethical managed funds, and turoing an initial investment of £1,000 into £1,482 by the end of last month.

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Mr Coates believes that "funds like this represent a necessary compromise between the strict application of ethical principles and the need to reduce risk."

paper's personal finance editor. The guide, sponsored by Friends Provident, has information on all aspects of money and ethics, including retirement planning. higher ratios of their fund val- Cnll 0800 214487 for n copy or

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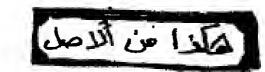
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# Defensive investments: a glossary

#### Corporate bond unit trusts Funds that invest in fixed-interest securities, including those issued by companies. Best suited to income rather than capital growth

A type of protected unit trust of-

fering a higher-than-usual level of protection. The selling price floor is set at a higher level, per-haps 98 or even 100 per cent of the prevailing bid price.

Fixed-interest funds Funds investing in stocks that pay a set return each year, including corporate bonds and governmeot bonds such as UK gilts.

Type of bond that runs for a fixed term, and offers a return linked to the performance of one or more stock market indices.

High-income bonds Money is invested for a fixed term, and a predetermined level of income is paid monthly or turned at the end of the term, provided a certain stock market index or combination has not fallNational Savings products
Offer maximum safety as they are backed by the Government. Some products are tax-free up to certain levels, including Indexlinked Savings Certificates and

Funds invested in commercial or

residential property, either directly or by investing in the shares of companies in the property sector.

Protected unit trusts Investment funds that offer a protected selling price, usually fixed for a certain period. They give investors security in case of a mar-

Stepped preference shares A class of share offered as part of a split capital investment trust, the level fixed in advance. When the trust is wound up, a further gain may be made.

Tessas - Tax-Exempt Special rings Accounts Five-year savings plans in which interest accumulates tax free if capital stays invested for the full term. Each investor can put a

maximum of £9,000 into the plan. Follow-on plans are available.:Be quick: Tessas will cease being sold after April 1999 in favour of the Government's new Individual Savings Account

A fund of various investments which can include shares and bonds. Investors buy units of the fund at the current market price, giving them a relatively small amount of money to spread their risk across many

With-profits investments Life companies offer this type of investment structure on bonds and endowment policies. Investment volatility is smoothed out by distributing the company's profits relatively evenly in the form of ao annual honus and a terminal bonus when the investment

Zero-dividend preference

Low-risk class of share offered as part of a split capital investment trust. The shares pay no income but get a fixed pay-out

#### Minimising risk during a precarious stock market period requires a variety of tactics. Rachel Fixsen asks the experts for advice

When storm clouds gather oo the stock market horizon, small investors might be tempted to run for cover. But short of selling everything remotely resembling a share and sticking the lot in a deposit account, how

exactly can you defend yourself? It all depends on what type of risk you want to minimise and what your personal view of the market is. For instance, if you fear a major correction on the UK stock market, you could diversify your stockholdings into foreign shares. Or if you are worried about an even stronger pound breaking the legs of UK exporters, stick to shares with no exposure to foreign markets.

Using collective investments such as unit trusts and investment trusts keeps your money safer by spreading your exposure to individual shares, and using some of your portfolio to buy Gilts or other bonds at least protects part of your investment from stock market turbulence.

But however much you may want to employ risk-avoidance tactics, make sure it makes sense from a tax point of view, stockbrokers warn. Selling,off a holding may well involve re-alising a capital gain, leaving you liable to pay capital gains tax. How would stockbrokers

 The secret is to use a combination of shares, where, if one falls in value, the others are likely to rise'

shape a hypothetical £100,000 defensive investment portfolio? David Carroll, of Barclays

Stockbrokers is oot worried by the current state of the market. "I actually think this is one of the short-term blips," he says. Having been very heavily into cash for the first few months of this year, he says he is now buying shares. "But I still wouldn't go jumping in entirely at the moment," he adds. For that part of the portfolio in equities, be advises sticking with UK stocks and being selective about glob-

On Mr Carroll's list of defensive buys are: Barclays, because bank stocks have seen a virtual crash in its prices recently and the downside in this sector is certainly limited from here; Glazo, which may well be the most volatile on this list but the company is globally diversified, selling products almost everywhere in the world; Land Securities, which is likely to benefit from falling interest rates over the next few years; and Whitbread, which has UK-Only earnings, saving it from the battering that fluctuating exchange rates can give some stocks. Kingfisher, Marks & Spencer, British Telecom and Tesco are also on his buy list.

A defensive investor should avoid information technology stocks. Mr Carroll says. The shares are trading at inflated levels, having priced in huge profit growth expectations. Some will need to have profit growth of 25 to 30 per cent a year for at least the next four years to justify today's prices, he says.

Steer clear of smaller companies. "Wheo the economy tightens, the companies that benefit are the bigger ones because of economies of scale." Carroll says. Secood line retailers such as Oasis and Deben-

hams do not belong in a defensive portfolio, he says.

Pharmaceutical companies such as Glaxo would fit a defensive portfolio, being global players

"Source: Micropal/LGIM

on an offer 10 hid basis

based on all PEP charges

re-invested from

01.10.96. to 18.05.98.

†Source: Micropal/LGIM

on an offer to bid basis

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On the defensive

Michael Winsoo of Hendersoo Crosthwaite, another stockbroking firm, says a £100,000 portfolio is best restricted to collective investments rather than individual shares. Upfroot charges of around 2 per ceot for investing in the shares of a single company make it unecocomical.

To play safe, a proportion of the portfolio should be held in zero-divideod prefereoce shares. "With these, any fall back in the market will always be well covered," he says.

They should yield around 6 to 6.5 per cent capital growth and are very low risk.

Slightly further up the risk scale are income shares in an investment trust. Investment trust shares are now trading at a discount of 10 to 20 per ceot to their oet asset value.

"There is a little bit of a huffer there and that will also give you extra gearing if the market does race," says Mr

Investing money in an OEIC (Open Ended Investment Company), which is usually run offshore, can give great flexibility. These are often umbrellas sheltering a number of investment funds. Once invested, you can switch between the funds, depending oo the market outlook at the time, for very little money, Winson says.

If you are sceptical about where the market is going, keep a proportion of your portfolio invested in a bear fund, he says. A bear fund uses derivatives to go against the market's direction. "If the market falls back it goes up in value," he adds.

For a defensive stocks portfolio, the secret is to use a combination of shares, says Winson, where, if ooe falls in value, the others are likely to rise. Utilities - particularly water stocks would be suitable, and have no overseas exposure. On the other side, pharmaceuticals would also fit, being global players. Giazo Wellcome and Smith-Kline Beecham are both at good buying levels, Winson says.

Telecommunications stocks and IT stocks should be avoided. "They have had exceptionally strong runs and may be first to be hit in bouts of profit tak-

ing," he says. William Davies, of Albert E Sharp, says for a defensive investor the portfolio should be split into cash, low-risk investments and equities. About £10,000 should be on instant access. As a low-risk investment, he would recommend £20,000 go into a with-profit bond and a further £15,000 into fixed-interest securities. The rest should be in shares. "This may appear high in the context of a 25 per cent rise over the last year in the UK, but I believe good quality equities provide the greatest protection against real capital erosion over time," says Davies.

Amoog shareholdings should be Shell, British Aerospace and SmithKline Beecham. GUS - best known as the leading home catalogue companyis another good holding for the defensive investor, Davies says. It also handles all functions related to credit cards, and will beoefit from the continuing trend to cotsource, he says.

British land is also an increasingly attractive purchase as property is a defensive investment - not only because property markets usually lag equity markets, but also because as interest rates fall, the yield from property becomes higher.

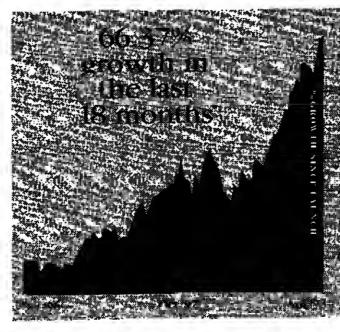
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Good cars, as with everything, are just a collection of small parts. And while the whole is getting more handsome, so the bits are getting more interesting, too.

A rich stream of details is one of the strengths of the new Volkswagen Golf, just oo sale in the UK. And while I appreciated them, I got thinking about other details of cars I have driveo recently, that have given me pleasure, or increased the car's practicality - or, ideally, both.

Great Golf touches include marvellously damped grah handles, already seco on the new Passat. Grab most grab handles and then let go, and they spring back on your knuckles like the jaws of a mousetrap. Let go of the Golf's, and they elegantly and gently return to hase.

I also love the blue backlit instrument lighting at night, which provides far more visual comfort and clarity than the usual meanly-illuminated display. And the "slush" moulded plastic dasb instantly elevates the Golf's dashboard up into Mercedes/Jaguar/BMW territory, while maintaining the Ford Escort price.

Still on the subject of interiors, Volvo's integrated rear fold-down child seat is a clever piece of work. The V70 estate I drove a couple of weeks back had one, and what a pleasure it was to use. However, at £260 oo the basic \$40 (£130 on the V70 estate) it's a pricey alternative to a Mothercare portable.

Think Volvo and you think safety. Yet Renault's ingenious remote radio controls, fitted oo column stalks, are at least as hig a safety boon as the protective armour fitted to modern Volvos. Instead of searching low oo the centre console for tiny, badly sited radio knobs and minuscule buttons, taking your eyes off the road and contorting your body into positions that make driving difficult, you simply tune your radio with easy-to-use controls just a finger stretch from the steering wheel. Most makers are finally copying Renault, with good reason.

Renault also scores with the new Espace's brilliant dashboard - the first car to use a dashboard intelligently. Dashes, as 1 have pointed out before, are futile throwbacks to the old borse-drawn carriage days when they prevented mud splashing on to passengers. Renault has turned the Espace's dash into a huge glovebox (hig enough for a briefcase), has huilt it nice and low, and has swathed it in attractive fabric rather than the usual plastic.

The Espace's little hrother, the Scenic, scores with its brilliant multi-purpose parcel shelf. Parcel shelves, in batchback or estate boots, act merely as expensive covers to stop prying eyes turning into thicking hands. On the Scenic, the parcel shelf can be positioned at various heights in the boot, allowing you to double-stack goods.

Renault's little Twingo, oot sold in Britain, has a fore-aft-adjustable rear seat that allows you to vary rear leg room or boot space. And for similar intelligent use of cabin space, Alfa's 145 has a large dugout dashboard area in froot of the passenger, greatly increasing knee- and legroom. Passengers do oot need to sit behind bulky dashboards, unlike the poor driver.

Finally, let's look at roofs. The magic electric folding Mercedes SLK roof is all very well, but the far cheaper Mazda MX-5's ragtop is as deverly engineered - and you can fold it, or erect it, by hand without getting out of the driver's seat. It's a far cry from the complicated manual manoeuvres necessary to put up, or down, the soft tops of various old British roadsters. Plus, the MX-5's roof doesn't leak when it rains.

The bike that thinks it's a car

Small is beautiful: Rolan Brown rides the BMW CI, a novel approach to economical, environmentally friendly motoring

When it was first revealed at a German motorcycle show six years ago, BMW's prototype C1 was regarded by many people as being much like that other futuristic form of transport, the personal autogiro.

Yes, sure, if in a few years' time we wereo't all flying across town with rotor blades strapped to our backs, we'd be commuting in an egg-like construction somewhere between a motorbike and a car, wearing oothing more protective than a business suit.

Except that this time the science fiction may become reality. In spring of the year 2000 the C1 will go on sale, for about £3,500. This new BMW will be able to be ridden, or driven, by anyone with a car licence (after taking the normal motorcycle basic training). And if British transport authorities follow those of Germany, oo crash helmet will be required.

The idea of a scooter with a roof is not new, but the C1 certainly is. Previous roofed bikes, from Honda and others, have simply provided weather protection. The C1's key feature is an inbuilt secondary safety system incorporating a frontal impact absorption zone, rider safety cage, seat belts and a beadrest.

BMW says that oot only is the C1 by far the safestever motorcycle, but the protection it provides in a head-on crash approaches that of a small car. Much of that protectioo comes from the foam-filled beak above the front wheel, and from the aluminium cage, strong enough to support a car on the C1's roof.

The Telelever front suspension system, similar to that of other BMW bikes, is also designed to absorb energy on impact. Given that the rider will remain strapped inside the bike in an accident, BMW says the extra weight of a helmet is a disadvantage.

The C1's powerplant is contrastingly conventional: a 125cc single-cylinder four-stroke unit, equipped with a catalytic converter and producing a maximum of 15bhp. In typical scooter fashion, the watercooled motor is bolted to the rear swing-arm. Its variable automatic transmission makes riding a simple twist-and-go affair and leaves the handlebars free for scooter-style front and rear brake levers.

Riding the C1 is oevertheless a novel experience, as I discovered when BMW let loose a group of car and hike journalists on prototypes at a test facility oear Municb. The feet-forward riding position, windscreen (with wiper) and twin seat-belts are reminiscent of a small car. But once you're under way the C1 is very much a bike, inevitably feeling top-heavy but handling much like a conventional giant scooter.

Performance was modest, with a top speed of 55mph. (Production bikes, which will be fuel-injected, will be slightly quicker). Crucially there was enough acceleration to keep ahead of most traffic in town, although existing motorcyclists and those planning longer trips would find this

learner-legal machine distinctly sluggish. Stability at speed in calm weather was fine, and the C1 cornered reasonably well oo its small, scooter-style wheels. The BMW also felt well-balanced and manoeuvrable at slow speed, despite its height. Although it is wider, heavier and less agile than most small bikes, slipping to the front of traffic queues should be easy, with practice. Single disc brakes at front and rear gave adequate stopping power; ABS will be an option.

Other safety features were harder to assess. When one inexperienced motorcyclist toppled over at slow speed, the C1 worked as intended as he stayed strapped in the cockpit without a scratch. But the machine's real value was best illustrated by crash-test videos, in which a dummy remained inside as the C1 hit a car at various angles. Footage of a normal bike in similar accidents would have

made gruesome viewing.
Whether the Cl's safety advantages will tempt people away from cars and public transport remains to be seen, but it does seem to combine practicality, safety and efficiency - both financial and environmental - in an unprecedented way. The rear platform can be used for luggage-carrying, or adapted to carry a pillioo (who will need a hel-met and protective clothing) if the rider has passed the hike test. Accessories will include radio/CD player, navigation system and heated seat, with airbags following later.

BMW hopes the C1 will be popular with commuters, families (replacing a secood car) and services ranging from police to food delivery. This may depend on whether it can legally be ridden, as inteoded, without a belmet. If so, the C1 may become a major mode of transport in future.



travel yet devised

Photograph: Roland Brown

## Pint-sized pizazz

Road test Fiat Seicento, by Roger Bell



The creche is getting crowded. est car, the Fiesta-based Ka, Buoyed by the Government's looks gargantuan alongside a small-is-beautiful edict, sales Seicento, which is under 11ft of budget-priced babes look set to escalate as gridlocked. Britain grinds to a halt.

New kids on the block include Seat's titchy Arosa, pre- feet oo tiny pedals. cursor of the sub-Polo-sized VW Lupo; Daiwoo's threea gang of dinky Daihatsus led by the Cuore. The city dodgem they all have to beat is the oew nothing else, is easier to pronounce than the Cinqueceoto (500) it replaces.

as "Europe's most compact" car for the impecunious, now a pricey fashion accessory for the well-heeled - is shorter. So is the Cuore. However, Ford's small-

long and upright with it-all the better to cram in four adults, those up front with ample room

The guillotined rump cooceals a ledge-like boot, which is Suzuki's oddball Wagon R, and to reflect its cheeky nature, the livelier Sporting, powered by an Seicento wears a saucy grin.

Loud hues and a bold shape 50 miles to the gallon. - the speedo's a Cyclops eye and Fiat Seiceoto (600), which, if switches are chunky - give the colourful cahin a jaunty mien, more Mickey Mouse than mainstream. Carry-all bins reflect The Polish-made Seicento is Fiat's devotioo to efficient packseriously small. Fiat describes it aging and practicality. There are oo frills, though up-range modthough the Mini - ooce wheels els get electric windows and central locking. Later options will include power steering and a Citymatic clutchless gear

Fiat 600s once had 600cc engines. The Seicento comes with a choice of two four-cylinder petrols when it goes on sale next week at prices close to those of the outgoing Cinqueceoto for elbows and legs, if not big nr. 6,800 £7,500! The Shand SX hum to the time of a puny 900cc. 39hp engioe which, despite modern exhaust cleansing, is alcylinder Matiz, coming soon; no more than to be expected of most as old as the Ark. Marginal Hyundar's Atoz (troubled South a car that will slot into parking motorists who want some piz-Korea is big oo small cars); spaces others can't reach. As if zazz should opt instead for the 1.100cc 54hp engine capable of

> To tag the Seiceoto a city car is to discredit its role as an intercity ooe. Even the sluggish 900 cruises tolerably quietly, despite low gearing. If the Scicento. is flawed as an urban funabout. it has less to do with zap - entertaining in the Sporting - than with agility. About town, the steering lacks bite and the ride's a hit agitated. From such a pert little car, I'd expected more hrio.

SPECIFICATIONS Fiat Seicento Sporting, about £7,600. Engine: 1,108cc, 8 valves, 4 cylinders, 54bhp. Transmission: five-speed manual gearbox, front-wheel drive. Top speed 93mph, 0-

Daihatsu Cuore, £6,500. Bland-looking utilitarian

60mph in 13.5 seconds,

45.5mpg (EC combined).

powered by three-cylinder 850cc engine. Nippier than it. looks, economical, availabla with five-door bodywork. Related mechanically to wacky Daihatsu Move. Ford Ka 1.3, £8,000. If you can stand its glowering face and ugly rump, the Ka's a cracker. Quiet, refined, smooth riding, sharp-

handling. Hyundai Atoz, £6,999. A tall oddler with a long

wheelbase giving a roomy," five-door monospace cabin. Power steering and central locking standard. So is excessive noise from the 999cc 12-valve engine. Seat Arosa 1.0, £6,995. Conservative three-door. micro-hatch, bigger than Seicento, smaller than Polo. Foreshadows VW Lupo clone. Nicely made, modest ability. Better with 1.4 motor

and five speeds.

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#### MY WORST CAR: DALE WINTON'S OPEL MONZA

I'm absolutely crazy about cars. My favourite kind is a coupé, the higger the betterthe American Caddies, Chevys and Lincolns. Back in the late Seveoties I owned a yellow Vauxhall Cavalier coupé. 1 decided to trade up and in a garage in Nottingham I found two Europeao models: a Vauxhall Senator and an Opel Monza.

The Senator was a comfortable four-door saloon. hut I couldn't help being drawn towards the Opel Monza, purely because it was a great big coupe. The salesman kept directing me back to the Scnator; I think he knew all too well what a pig of a car that Monza was. But I still weot for it.

It looked OK. The colour

was a metallic grey and it was the top-of-the-range 3.0 litre model. As I drove it away I

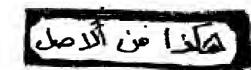


realised there was a lot wroog - including a 2-in gap one side of the steering column. It must have been stuck back together after a big accident. Wheo I accelerated there was a nasty, grinding noise.

It went back to the garage dozens of times. The electrics were a nightmare, the dash was always flashing at me and

it was always breaking down. Even the roof had been damaged by the "For Sale" sign. It must have been on, sale for ages until a sucker, like me came along.

From 18 May Dale Winton will present 'Lorraine Live' on GMTV. He was talking to James Ruppert.



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# <sup>a</sup>Converting the heritage watchdog

Many developers agree with Alan Clark that English Heritage has got 'too big for its boots', But conservationists insist that preservation is all in the finer details. Penny Jackson reports

Alan Clark, the former Conservative minister, gave English Heritage something of a roasting in the House of Commons a few weeks ago after his medieval home in Kent was listed on a Buildings at Risk register. He told the Commons that he had been "named and shamed" and that the heritage watchdog had become "too hig for its boots".

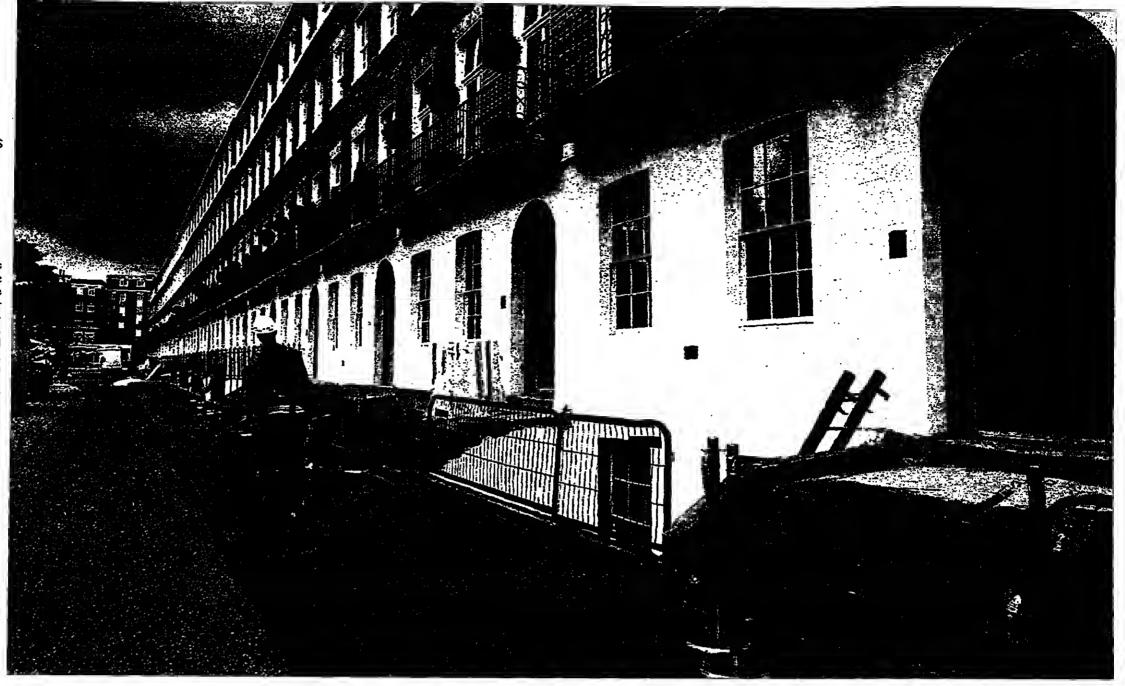
Criticism of our homes, like our families, is guaranteed to set hackles rising, hut English Heritage points out that the decay at Saltwood Castle referred only to the perimeter wall and that Mr Clark was not mentioned by name. Even if the heat has been taken out of this particular dispute, the line between sensitive conservation and overzealous officialdom is a fine one.

English Heritage is a quango that advises the Government on all aspects of historic buildings, as well as involving itself in changes to Grade I and Grade II listed properties. The number of applications for listed building consent has increased enormously over the past few years as the trend for converting redundant buildings into homes, particularly in London, has grown.

Not surprisingly, developers and conservationists don't always see eye to eye. It is not that they fail to agree on the need to preserve old buildings but that they differ on the detail and extent. This week has seen the wraps come off Earl's Terrace, a Georgian terrace in Kensington, London, which has been completely renovated. The 25 houses have row, and since prices start at £3.25 million, it is clear that more than a few improvements have been made to its early 19th century origins.

sent to the delight

ers, wondered whether they would ever cross the finishing line. "We and months of heartache if we had not had to fight English Heritage on so many points. Our objective was maintain the character of the ter- Hunter. Yace, but even though they were in



assemble the staircases with 80 per cent of the original wood. We could have made new ones at exactly the same rake at a fraction of the £30,000 each one cost and I would defy anyone to tell the difference.

The floors were sloping and there were great gaps under the been duhbed the new millionaire's doors because the backbone of the houses had slipped," says Mr Hunter. "I was told that it was part of the character of the terrace and shouldn't be changed, but I argued But there was a point when John . that it wasn't originally built with un-Hunter, of Northacre, the develop- even floors." Finally, a structure went in to strengthen the building so the floors could be levelled but the ing that they are there"? asks John

a dangerous state we had to re- could have put in identical windows with sealed units, but because in a certain light the glass appeared slightly tinted, we were only allowed to use single panes of glass. Conservation should mean preserving the best but not without regard for how people want to live. I think the blend of new and old is exciting."

At Observatory Gardens in Kensington, Northacre wanted to replace the porticos and bays missing from a number of the houses. Only when they were able to produce photographic evidence that they had exthough they serve no function. "Do me know more about a building than says Davies. we really sleep better at night know- the specialists," says John Hunter.

Davies, regional director for London.

around Georgian terraces and sloping floors are fairly typical. "Some developers promote huildings with uneven floors because people want their historic buildings to be genuine. Same with the walls. Often the brickwork is not bonded together well but it is very easy to tie the skins together. eveo if there is a bulge in the wall."

Ten years ago. English Heritage would have been arguing with an owner about considering a change of use for a building but now people are falling over themselves to find a derelict warehouse or crumbling isted before a bomb hit the terrace tower. "We would never have found were they allowed to rebuild them. a sympathetic use for schools and original joists have been kept even "I make sure that those working for even public conveniences then."

At English Heritage, Philip a problem-solving role, in terms of vationist so I want to put things back. House: remaining apartments from making suggestions about how build- as they were, but it can be an uphill £300,000. Sales office 01798 344164, "The same with the windows. We is familiar with many of those arguings can be used, but we are not able struggle if you want to alter the ap- and agents Hamptons International.

ments. The bulk of his work revolves to get involved with every project, Some people will see our role as meddling, but developers do not always recognise the importance of what they are dealing with."

No one disputes that without English Heritage, market forces could lead us back to destructiveness of modernisation: in the 1950s a counmy house was demotished every week.

Michael Wilson, a developer, architect and contractor who specialises in restoring Grade 1 properties, has seen the damage done by cost-cutting. "Dire proposals for drab and bland reproductions without regard for the original huilding," he says. "Once you have a feel can work with them and our aims are Earl's Terrace: agents FPD Savills,

pearance or add things. The local conservation officer is often the person who gives you most feedback." At present, he is in the finishing

stages of converting Burton House,

near Petworth, Sussex, into apart-

ments and has just won an award for the second year running for the best renovated property. Wilson employs his own team of specialist craftsmen. His higgest frustration is the time it can take to negotiate the various stages with English Heritage. "A

simple modification can take months and months to be approved. They may move faster if a building is a deteriorating but delays obviously cost us money.

"We would like to have more of the same. I am very much a conser- Chesterfield and WA Ellis. Burton

developers of Earl's Terrace in Kensington had to fight English Heritage on many details - including the sloping floors, which, the watchdog insisted, were part of the houses' character Photograph: Andrew Buurman

# And here's the bedroom ...

are not what you expect your estate agent to get up to when you hand over your keys. But a. new survey reveals that, yes, it does go on. By Ginetta **Vedrickas** 

Your house is for sale and your agent has the keys. You go away for the weekend, reassured that they are hard at work alerting prospective buyers to your ample power points. But are you certain they are not plugging away at something quite dif-

A survey of almost 1,000 estate agents, commissioned by Suff magazine, revealed a host of unsavoury vices: Ten per cent had "made themselves at home" in a property for which they held keys, a quarter admitted to having sex in the houses they were selling, a practice that surely ranks as making yourself at home. and 5 per cent had given a party in a property. Many of us harbour less than positive feelings towards estate agents, but can you imagine your agent "at home" and in your house? Does the survey reflect reality? Mark Coulter, a negotiator at Chestertons estate agents, admits he chose his profession because he no light on any tawdry goings-on.

ties in clients' homes and wouldn't niture was his." What happened to go on principle," says Mark, who the blushing boy? "We sacked him on doesn't quite fit the cartoon-like figure illustrated in Stuff.

He doesn't own the regulation BMW driven by the majority of agents, according to the survey, and, unlike the 39 per cent top category who listed salary as the main reason for entering their profession. Mark's motives are different: "I like getting out and about and meeting people." So what does he drive? "I should make something up hut it's a Ford Fiesta. I'm quite boring really." says Mark reassuringly.

Andy Clerkson, Stuff's editor, lieves estate agents compare unfavourably with other professions they've surveyed. Were the findings fair? "It was anonymous and we've no reason to believe they would lie." has not received invitations to any to know anyone from this survey. Most of them said they were rightwing-voting Telegraph readers, which goes against all national averages."

Unsurprisingly, no agents took and admitted to any clandestine affairs or swinging parties. But some Jack-the-lad here." had interesting tales to tell. A senior negotiator recounts his worst experience in 15 years' practice: "A divorcing couple had their flat on our Knowles, of Muswell Hill estate books. They'd moved out and we had the keys. One day the woman came findings represent anyone in the inmoved back in because she'd been round and found the place full of furniture. I told her it was impossible and "likes variety". But Mark can shed that an agent had recently shown clients round. The agent in question on clients' clothes? "The nearest 1 plaints against agents now have "That's the ultimate sin." Stephen 0181-883 5485.

Illicit sex and wild parties "Tve never been invited to illicit par- went red and admitted that the furand recently featured in a TV documentary."

> Most vendors assume their property is safe in an agent's hands and trust them to act responsibly. There were no signs that anyone had been bouncing on Louise Rainbow's bed when she sold her Brixton flat but on visiting an agency to arrange viewings, she found surprisingly unpro-fessional attitudes: "We walked in and told the agents what we were looking for. They didn't know us from Adam, yet they dished out keys was shocked by the results and be- and we went to look at a flat unaccompanied. There was dirty washing everywhere, it was embarrassing, and we could have been anyone."

Stephen Smith, manager of Bushells' Dulwich branch, finds Andy knows no agents personally, so Louise's experience "appalling". "It should never happen, what if somelegendary parties: "I wouldn't want thing goes missing? We accompany everyone, even after exchange of contracts," says Stephen, who finds the survey totally unrepresentative of the industry. "Ask stupid questions and The Independent into their confidence get the odd one but I think there's short," says Johanna, a self-confessed an element of trying to be clever old

The survey was aimed at male for women? Johanna Haddonagency JHK, does not believe the years: "I've never had sex or thrown wouldn't dream of it."

Isn't she ever tempted to just try



get to making myself at home is feed- more hope of redress since the Om- Smith accepts that errors happen you get stupid answers. You always madly or having a pee if I'm caught feline fanatic.

make herself at home in your prop- 261 complaints about commission agents; would the results be the same erry, as her service goes beyond the fees. call of duty. "With very untidy clients I pop round five minutes before a throws party or has sex on premisviewing and kick the dirty underwear es". Does that mean it never hap- lie to make a sale and 11 per cent under the bed," she says. Juhanna in yelling that her husband must have dustry in which she's worked for 10 never allows unaccompanied viewings but hears weekly tales of agents had them," says John Gray, a party in a client's home and I who do: "They are absolute twats, what a bloody risk."

ing their cats if they're minowing budsman widened its scheme to in- but is intolerant of some comclude independent as well as corporate agents earlier this year. Top of last year's list at 684 complaints You may wish Johanna would was maladministration followed by

> No categories exist for "agent pens? "We didn't have a complaint about a party last year but we have spokesperson for the Ombudsman. Why none lately? "Maybe they just

plainants: "My impression is that it's sometimes a way of trying to chip the fee. They should ask themselves if their expectations are realistic."

Some questions make the survey's results questionable. When asked if there is such a thing as an honest estate agent, 57 per cent said that most said they all do. But can we believe

The Ombudsman for Estate Agents, 01722 333306; Chestertons, 0171-357 Buyers and sellers with com- haven't been caught," says John: 6911; Bushells, 0181-299 1722; JHK.

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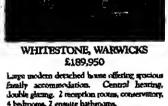
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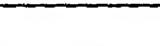
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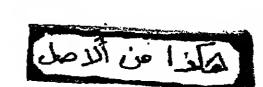
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# The nightmare of your first time

'If it feels right, go for it' may be the advice of some estate agents. but wirgins to the property market do have a lot to learn, says Ginetta Vedrickas Not least, don't panic

Those of as sitting prettily in properties of our own can bask in the warmsthowledge that our assets are sing unless of course we want to trade up. Not everyone is so small, and for first-time buyers rising house prices equal rising pan-ic and the fear of never getting even a toe for the property ladder.

Sarah Collier and her partner Kevin were renting a flat until the birth of their baby Thomas brought an unfent need for a house of their own: We've never been so sensihie in our lives before." The couple shared the same vision of their ideal home, "a terraced cottage with two bedrooms, proper sash windows and definitely a garden", but the search in Streatham Common, an area "with loads of friends and family", proved difficult.

Were agents helpful to the first-"We were worried because prices were rising and, despite being specific about our requirements, agents tried to get us to look at horrendous basements without gardens or flats, five storeys up, which would be impossible with a baby and a huggy," says Sarah.

The comple found that anyf thing decent was "snapped up the same day" and despaired of finding somewhere, until one day Sarah chanced upon a little cottage that was having its sale board erected. Kevin became property owners car-Sarah knocked on the door and found the owner was a friend of a arranged to view and later that day offered the asking price, £75,000,

"He was very embarrassed and said it had never happened before in all his years' experience. He was a genginely nice man," says Sarah, who decided to match the offer as long as the vendor promised faithfully not to accept further offers. The

can



Good advice for first-timers is 'speak to a lender before you fall in love with somewhere and then realise you can't afford it'

lier this year. Was the process stressful? "We came in and said, nightmare."

without Kevin even seeing the survey part of the procedure relahouse. The offer was accepted tively painless. Kevin is an archi-

We've had a few teetering sales but we take it as our personal mission to steer them through," says Nick with the saintly repose of a man hell-bent on commission.

Richard Turnhull, financial addeal was struck and Sarah and ous but, as well as securing the best a media that can help them decide was renting," Julian says.

themselves into."

Most first-time huyers take out loans of between 70-90 per cent of the rate rises." the value of the property. Richard with a brief query from Kevin; tect, and trusted his own finds that most of his current with the Nick Hare inclients have deposits of around 10 mortgage payments and this was. mortgage payments and this was the per cent and until recently, faced—the case for production assistant first-time buy "Capeniave mortgage indemsity Julian Meakins, who recently visit from their agent brought a se- ers can be a jumpy lot: "When the guarantees (MIGs) that protect the bought a one-bedroom flat in rious hiccup. Another couple had survey comes back they panic. lender not the borrower. Earlier Acton, west London: "I was rentoffered an extra £5,000, which the Agents should pre-empt the pan- this year, several of the big lenders ing a studio flat in Camden, near cent more than re-sales. Julian says Gordon, who sees this scenario ic and tell them what to expect. abolished MIGs for borrowers work, but my parents kept nagging who can raise a 10 per cent deposit me to buy somewhere so I did." which has given a boost to the first-

> than in previous years, partly be- and I'm not exactly the DIY type viser for Patrick Knight, is less zeal- cause they have greater access to hut I am paying less than when I

possible mortgage deal for his which mortgage is best, although first-timers, arms them with the he warns: "A mortgage product is facts: "I always make sure they about more than getting a fixedfriend. Through the agents, Sarah thank God. What a complete know exactly what they're getting rate of 3.89 per cent for two years. Look carefully at the fine detail and make sure you can afford it when

> Some first-time buyers pay more in rental than the cost of Julian received a "whopping great deposit" from his parents, which Richard believes that first-time enabled him to buy the £110,000 buyers are more knowledgeable flat. What's it like? "It needs work

plan to employ an architect, if I can afford it," adds Julian. Onebedroom flats in London are plentiful where converted houses make up the hulk of the market. As one agent eulogised: "We pile 'em high and sell 'em cheap.'

First-timers may be attracted by Meakins with his "whopping great regularly, if not often. deposit" could choose from pretty much anywhere in London, but the financially challenged may have to seek out less popular nooks and crannies that are awaiting discovery.

Nick Harrington has a onebedroom flat in Streatham on of- available." Sadly, it usually isn't.

How is he coping with the fer at £58,000, but finds that first-restoration of his flat? "I'm not, I timers often miss out the flat stage timers often miss out the flat stage and go straight for two-bedroom cottages: "They've been renting for years and have saved large deposits," Nick explains.

Gordon Blausten, of Notting Hill agency Bruten, is London's estate agent of the year and offers this advice: "Speak to a bank or the special deals that developers, "broker before you fall in love with offer on 'starter homes' hut bear somewhere and then realise you in mind that, like new cars, new can't afford it. It will be difficult to flats tend to cost around 20 per find somewhere similar for less,"

And how do you choose your first home? "If it feels right, go for it," Gordon advises, and avoid the painful scenes he frequently witnesses. "First-time huyers often return a month after viewing and ask if the first place they saw is still



### **Bonding** is essential

There are some very unhappy landlords and tenants in the South Kensington area of London. A couple of months ago, the London letting agents Aron and Lewis disappeared overnight and with them went all their clients' money.

Needless to say, the agents were neither members of Arla (Association of Residential Letting Agents) or the Rics (Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors), but they did have a good reputation locally.

Jacqueline Ironside of Ironsides, residential lettings specialist, says she was not alone in being astounded at the news. "We heard about it initially from somebody who picked up the keys from their office on a Friday and hy Monday they had gone. We have known them for years and they were considered good, successful agents.

"It underlines how important bonding is, as anything can happen from one moment to the next. Even reputation counts for nothing if people's money is not protected." Indeed the Government is heing pressed to regulate the lettings market to protect deposits and rent from fraud and mismanagement

Arla estimates that £1hn of clients' money is in unbonded accounts. For the time being, the South Kensington victims, who could numher 200, only know that the owners of Aron and Lewis are no longer in the country.

Owners of new homes who encounter problems during the first two years should get them resolved more quickly under a new conciliation service proposed by the National House-Building Council (NHBC).

At present repairs in this period are the responsibility of the builder. but in too many cases this amounts to botch jobs and foot-dragging. The NHBC guarantee has been criticised recently as owners describe a catalogue of faults with their new properties, many of them starting within months of moving in.
The NHBC is also prepared to

step in at an earlier stage in disputes between owners and builders, to put more pressure on builders to respond quickly to complaints and to monitor the repairs more closely. As part of its current review it has highlighted an unacceptable level of finishing defects at handover; builders who are slow to respond to complaints and some huilders failing to repair de-

## If you want the perfect house, , build it yourself

Take one large plot, the Internet, and two willing couples, and what do you get? Satisfied homeowners, as Mary Wilson discovers

Put together the Internet and a plot of land and you have two happy selfhuild couples. Peter and Linda Vincent had been hunting for their perfect plot for almost three years, when they discovered a beautiful site for sale near Strete, in Dartmouth. They had decided to build a house designed by Potton, which specialises in timber-frame kits, but this site had planning for two four-bedroom bun-

"It was also far too large and too expensive," says Peter. "but we were determined to buy it". Peter and Linda had been living the Midlands, but they wanted to move to South Devon. They had looked at lots of houses, all of which needed work doing to them, and then went to a selfbuilding show in Birmingham.

"We were caught by the bug," says Peter, "I was working as an IT manager, so was used to the Internet and started writing bits and pieces on the Individual Homes Plotfinder forum. We saw the site near Strete and put a note on the forum saying the plot has sea views, good access, is close to services, is there anyone out there who might be interested in joining forces buying the plot?"

Not long after, they received a phone call from Tony and Ishbel Stuart, who wanted to meet up and have a look at the site. They discovered they lived only a few miles away from each other and both had decided to build a Potton home.

Although they both originally wanted to huild houses, they had to think about putting up bungalows instead. So Ishbel e-mailed Potton for a hrochure from one of its its subsidiaries, the Bungalow Company. Throughout the project, the couples liaised with each other via the Internet, although they lived close by. They researched the project and dealt with Potton on-line.

"I found the Internet particularly useful when looking for materials as I had decided to do all the wiring and plumbing myself," says Peter Vincent. "The only problems we encountered were building delays, as there was more waste to remove form the site than originally antici-

The couple were working fulltime while the house was going up, so they ended up doing 16 hours a day. Linda did all the decoration on the inside and out and has also done most of the landscaping, too. "It has been jolly hard work, but we have enjoyed the change of direction. It was a hobby turned into a life-time project, albeit for only six months," says

But the two couples have not only found themselves the perfect site, via the Internet, they have also saved quite a few thousand pounds by building their homes. The two houses cost around £100,000 each to build including £31,000 each for the plot, and are expected to be worth



£150,000 each when completely finished. The Stuarts moved into their home last November and the Vincents in the New Year.

Self-building is one way to live in prepared to give time to adequate research before you start and to oversee the project as it progresses. "It is a chance to use your initiative and you up 20-25 per cent of the cost of the can always find a way round problems. land and then lend money in tranch-We now have a house we would nev-

er have been able to afford in a million years," says Ishbel Stuart.

Peter says that he would happily self-build again, but he has learnt one very important lesson. "Although I the home of your dreams if you are had no problem borrowing the money from the Bradford & Bingley, I didn't think enough about cash flow," he says. Lenders expect you to put es as the building work progresses.

are lent in arrears. "So, you mustn't is what I did," says Peter. The timcompany supplying this will want to be paid on the nail. Either you need to have the money for this, arrange

credit with the company or organise an overdraft with your bank. Some of the high street banks un-

However, these sums of money derstand enough about self-huilding now to lend money for it and there building your own house spend your capital up front, which are a number of huilding societies which are completely geared up for ber-frame kit will be the most ex- this sort of project, the Bradford & pensive lump sum required and the Bingley and the Norwich and Peterborough being among the two that are currently most helpful.

> Potton and The Bungalow Company, 01767 263 300 or e-mail: sales@-

DIY taken to extremes: can be 'jolly hard work', but

> Photograph: Ronnie Burgess

# Wiley window-shopping

Accurate restoration of Victorian or Edwardian glass need not be limiting. Experts can help to dress your windows. By Rosalind Russell

windows to replace them with uPvc is now regarded as the ultimate act of vandalism. Especially since the rash of recent home-improvement television shows has apparently shown us

the error of our wicked ways. But finding a craftsman to repair or replace old Victorian or Edwardian glass isn't always that simple - especially if you fancy a more contemporary or unusual design.

According to Mike Slaughter of Creative Glass, which produces windows of every style from ecclesiastical to domestic, "Most people don't know exactly what they want and what can be done. We're only limited by imagination and hudget. It helps enormously if we can visit the client's house and get a feel for their idea of style."

The firm, which famously made a Wallace and Gromit cartoon's creator Nick Parkes, make windows by hot-melting

TEL: 0171 293 2222

is – like many glass companies different glasses together, and by including enamelling. The Slinging out damaged period is - like many glass companies lemium commissions. But they are happy to help clients design less grandiose projects, from restoring a Victorian door panel to producing a surprise hirthday

While most estate agents would advise against personalising a property in case it puts off potential future buyers, they'd agree a specially comoned window is likely to add a quirky value to a house.

"We've done a window for a windsurfer, a balloonist and a hreeder of rare sheep," says Mike. "And we've even designed windows featuring a Bugatti and a Morgan. But, I must admit, we groan when someone comes in saying they want a pet immortalised in glass."

New techniques mean stained-glass windows don't have to look as if they should be pair of glass door panels for the in a church. Creative Glass can

"It's usually possible to get

A more straightforward traditional Victorian or Edwardian panel starts at £35. Even clear glass for a period home can reduce the property's value if it isn't matched properly. Besides, there may be restrictions on putting in mass-produced

The Londoo Crown Glass Company knows all about conservation: they supply hand-hlown window glass (mostly imported from France and Germany) and have worked oo Windsor Castle and Hampton Court Palace and with the National Trust.

cost is unlikely to be less than £100. A hig door panel can cost anything between £180 and £700, including VAT and depending on intricacy and labour.

Jude Tarrant and her husband John work closely with architects and conservation officers when replacing damaged stained glass. Commissions for their firm Suprise Stained Glass include matching medieval glass panes in a priory in Hertfordshire, repairing heraldic panels and the restoration of the windows at Chichester Cathedral.

"There is a large amount of Victorian and Edwardian houses in our region of Hampshire," says Jude. "After 100 years or so, these windows need re-leading.

a very close match. But we have designed windows for presents for a Ruby wedding and so on. We are asked to do horses and dogs, but we have to be very exact and look for the points of the breed, for the slope of the back and set of the ears. It can be quite tricky."

can match that glass," says Chris Salmood, "We also occasionally supply windows for an extension, or replace glass in an antique bookcase." glass if the house is listed. Prices for gennine handhlown glass begin at £129 per square metre, plus VAT and degood-quality period-style glass,

thing, prices for that start at £53.90 per square metre. "It doesn't have the little im-"If we have a Georgian perfections of hand blown, but

hut not necessarily the real

house with sash windows, we it waves gently because it's bent afterwards. It can even be used in double-glazed units."

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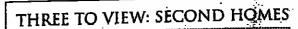
**Sunrise Stained** 

Glass can create

more traditional

The British Society of Master Glass Painters has more than 500 members who will accept commissions for restoration, repair and new design. It has a website livery. If the work calls for showing studios and portfolios at proteus.web.com./bsmgp

> Creative Glass, 0117-973 7025; Sunrise Stained Glass, 01705 750512; London Crown Glass



Dawn Cottage in Pillerton Priors, six miles from Stratford-upon-Avon and six miles from the M40, is perfectly placed for a quick Friday night getaway. On the edge of open countryside, the two-



bedroom cottage has a small manageable garden with an apple tree, garage and workshop. The study/dining room has a beamed ceiling and the sitting room has an open fireplace with a cast iron range. There's a Romany style hand-painted unit in the kitchen along with wall cupboards and a walk-in larder. £95,000 through GA Town & Country (91789

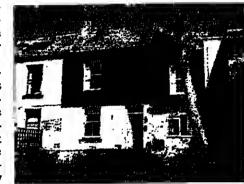
Orchard Cottage in Child Okeford, Dorset has a date stone inscribed 1847, but the house may be much older. The white painted, three-bedroom cottage has an inglenook fireplace in the sitting room and a garden room/con-



servatory. A period outbuilding could, with planning permission, convert to a studio or office if working from home. The gardens of a third of an acre include terrace and lawn, with flower borders, a kitchen garden and an old orchard. £169,000 through Humberts (01258 452343).

Two Seaview Terrace in Churchtown is just a mile from the popular Mullion Cove in Cornwall. Renovated four years ago, the threebedroom cottage is ceotrally heated and has a 75ft garden. The kitchen is modern with plenty

of cupboards,



there is a sitting room with fireplace, a dining room and a conservatory. All for £57,000 through Miller & Son (01326 572434).



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